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CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

"The latest surge tested us in ways we hadn't seen throughout the pandemic, and these service members will help relieve some of the lingering impact we're still feeling"

—Thomas Burke, president of Saint Francis Hospital in Hartford



FEMA military medical personnel arrive to cheers at Saint Francis Hospital in Hartford on Thursday. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

Always on call

Military medical-relief unit arrives to ease the burden on pandemic-afflicted staff at Saint Francis Hospital

By **Jesse Leavenworth** | Hartford Courant

A military medical relief unit arrived Thursday to cheers from the COVID-afflicted staff at Saint Francis Hospital in Hartford. The 20 U.S. Air Force nurses, physicians and other medical workers will work to ease the burden on the hospital's diminished staff. The contingent is part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's nationwide "surge response" program.

Hospital workers gathered in the rotunda at the main entrance to cheer the airmen, who marched in single file wearing camouflage uniforms and backpacks. The troops are staying at an area hotel during the mission, which will stretch at least 30 days, hospital officials said.

"The latest surge tested us in ways we hadn't seen throughout the pandemic," hospital President Thomas Burke said, "and these service members will help relieve some of the lingering impact we're still feeling."

Asked how many hospital workers are out due to COVID, Saint Francis chief nursing officer Vernette Townsend said 50 to 60, but other officials said that number is a moving target.

Most of the airmen are members of the 59th Medical Wing at Joint Base San Antonio.

The team includes six critical care nurses, five clinical nurses, three physicians, two cardiopulmonary nurses, a nurse practitioner and three medical support personnel.

"The main goal of our mission is to help alleviate the strain on the staff who are overworked due to patient census and staffing challenges," said U.S. Air Force Maj. Stuart Brigham, the officer in charge of the team. "I am truly honored that I am able to use my

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More coronavirus coverage inside: Connecticut continues to see high numbers of deaths related to COVID-19, even as cases and hospitalizations return to pre-omicron levels. The state on Thursday reported 136 additional coronavirus-linked deaths over the past seven days, fewer than the previous week but far more than during a typical week last year. **Connecticut, Page 1**

Inflation in US jumps to 40-year high

Fed mulls raising borrowing rate to help curb spending

By **Jeanna Smialek**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Inflation soared over the past year at its highest rate in four decades, hammering American consumers, wiping out pay raises and reinforcing the Federal Reserve's decision to begin raising borrowing rates across the economy.

The Labor Department said Thursday that consumer prices jumped 7.5% last month compared with a year earlier, the steepest year-over-year increase since February 1982.

When measured from December to January, inflation was 0.6%, the same as the previous month and more than economists had expected. Prices rose 0.7% from October to November and 0.9% from September to October.

Shortages of supplies and workers, heavy doses of federal aid, ultra-low interest rates and robust consumer spending combined to send inflation leaping in the past year. And



Restaurant prices are rising across the country. Above, people dine Saturday in Los Angeles. **MARK ABRAMSON/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

there are few signs that it will slow significantly anytime soon.

Wages are rising at the fastest pace in at least 20 years, which can pressure companies to raise prices to cover higher labor costs.

Ports and warehouses are overwhelmed, with hundreds of workers at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, the nation's busiest, out sick last month. Many products and parts remain in short supply as a result.

The latest inflation data suggested to

some economists that the Fed could raise its key rate in March by one-half of a percentage point, rather than its typical quarter-point hike.

James Bullard, the president of the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank, told Bloomberg News that he supported a sharp increase of a full percentage point in the benchmark short-term interest rate by July.

Turn to Inflation, Page 2

Yale's health empire grows

Nonprofit system acquires hospitals in Manchester, Vernon and Waterbury

By **Christine Dempsey**
and **Stephen Singer**
Hartford Courant

Yale New Haven Health and Prospect Medical Holdings, Inc. Thursday announced they have signed an agreement for the Yale health system to acquire Manchester Memorial Hospital, Rockville General Hospital in Vernon and Waterbury Hospital.

The nonprofit Yale system plans to buy Prospect's Waterbury HEALTH and ECHN, or Eastern Connecticut Health Network. The deal will include the health systems' related businesses, real estate assets, physician clinic operations and outpatient services, according to spokesmen for the health care organizations.

The agreement is subject to regulatory approval, system leaders said. Yale hopes to complete the transaction later this year.

ECHN and Waterbury HEALTH, with approximately 2,900 employees, would return to not-for-profit status and continue to provide care at their campuses and outpatient locations, the spokesmen said in a release.

As the organizations move toward a final agreement, Yale New Haven Health is focused on preserving jobs in the local communities and supporting employee pensions, system leaders said.

Turn to Yale, Page 3

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

House extends emergencies to guarantee federal money

Measure to save pandemic relief heads to the Senate

By **Christopher Keating**
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — After a sometimes passionate debate, state legislators voted Thursday afternoon to extend two emergencies so that the state can continue to receive more than \$50 million in critical federal funds.

The House of Representatives voted 89-56 along mostly party lines following a debate that lasted nearly two hours.

Lawmakers battled over the public health and civil preparedness emergencies that are related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The emergencies had been previously declared by Gov. Ned Lamont, but his extraordinary powers are scheduled to expire on Feb. 15. As a result, the legislature is assuming the authority over the emergencies and has also vowed to extend some of Lamont's executive orders.

A critical point for House Speaker Matt Ritter of Hartford and other Democrats is that Connecticut cannot afford

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W. Hartford resident makes 'Jeopardy!' college semis

Joey Kornman, who is from West Hartford and is a junior at Brandeis College, has advanced to the semifinals in the "Jeopardy!" National College Championship. **Connecticut, Page 1**

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WORLD & NATION

Inflation

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Over time, higher rates will raise the costs for a wide range of borrowing, from mortgages and credit cards to auto and business loans. That could cool spending and inflation, but for the Fed, the decision to steadily tighten credit could also trigger another recession.

Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell signaled two weeks ago that the central bank would likely raise its benchmark short-term rate multiple times this year.

Stock prices declined after the inflation report was released.

Prices for a broad range of goods and services accelerated from December to January — and not just for items directly affected by the pandemic. Apartment rental costs rose 0.5% in January, the fastest pace in 20 years.

Electricity prices also surged 4.2% in January, the sharpest rise in 15 years, and are up 10.7% from a year earlier. Last month, household furniture and supplies rose 1.6%, the largest one-month increase on records dating to 1967.

Food costs, driven by pricier eggs, cereal and dairy products, increased 0.9% in January. Restaurant prices also are on the upswing.

New car prices, which have jumped during the pandemic because of a shortage of computer chips, were unchanged last month but are up 12.2% from a year ago. Used car prices rose 1.5% in January and are up 41% from a year ago.

“Just as price pressures in some areas ease, inflation in other parts of the economy” is picking up, said Sarah House, an economist at Wells Fargo. “The upshot is that inflation is likely to remain uncomfortably high.”

The steady rise in prices has left many Americans less able to afford food, gas, rent, child care and other necessities.



A customer shops at a home improvement store on Thursday in Miami. The Labor Department announced that consumer prices jumped 7.5% last month compared with 12 months earlier, the steepest year-over-year increase since February 1982. **JOE RAEDLE/GETTY**

“While today is a reminder that Americans’ budgets are being stretched in ways that create real stress at the kitchen table, there are also signs that we will make it through this challenge.”

—President Joe Biden, in a statement

More broadly, inflation has emerged as the biggest risk factor for the economy and as a serious threat to President Joe Biden and congressional Democrats as

midterm elections loom later this year.

“While today is a reminder that Americans’ budgets are being stretched in ways that create real

stress at the kitchen table, there are also signs that we will make it through this challenge,” Biden said in a statement following the release Thursday.

Among the Americans who are struggling with pricier food and gas is Courtney Luckey, who has changed her shopping habits and taken on additional work shifts at a grocery store in Charlotte, North Carolina, where she lives.

Luckey, 33, used to be able to fill up a grocery cart for

\$100. Now, she said, \$100 barely fills half the cart.

Tomatoes have reached nearly \$5 a pound, “which I think is ridiculous.”

Luckey has switched to canned tomatoes and has begun using coupons for Family Dollar and Food Lion.

To help pay bills, she’s also picked up more hours at a Harris Teeter grocery store.

But the store is 30 minutes from her house, so she’s had to spend more on gas.

All her forced additional spending has caused Luckey to pull back on the family activities, such as bowling, with her daughter, her brother and his two sons. Those outings now typically happen once a month, rather than every week or two.

In the past year, sharp increases in the costs of gas, food, autos and furniture have upended many other Americans’ budgets, too.

The New York Times contributed.

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LOTTERY

Thursday, Feb. 10

PLAY4 DAY

5 9 0 2 WB: 6

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

WEDNESDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

PLAY3 NIGHT

3 0 0 WB: 4

PLAY4 NIGHT

7 8 1 7 WB: 5

CASH 5

14 16 17 21 26

LUCKY FOR LIFE

8 16 22 23 40 LB: 15

POWERBALL

2 17 33 51 63 PB: 26 PP: 2

Tonight's est. Lotto jackpot: \$1M

Tonight's est. Mega Millions jackpot: \$42M
Saturday's est. Powerball jackpot: \$172M



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FROM PAGE ONE

Litchfield state Sen. Miner says he won't seek reelection

By Christopher Keating
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — Longtime Republican legislator Craig Miner, one of the more colorful lawmakers in Hartford, announced Thursday that he will not be seeking reelection to the state Senate.

Miner spent eight terms in the state House of Representatives before winning his first race for the state Senate in 2016. He has become one of the longest-serving Republicans in the legislature with 26 years of experience.

Before arriving in Hartford, he spent 10 years as first selectman in his hometown of Litchfield.

Miner's retirement represents a blow to Senate Republicans because he won numerous elections in his legislative career and was seen as the favorite in the race. His departure will come at the same time as deputy Senate Republican

leader Paul Formica of East Lyme and longtime Sen. Kevin Witkos of Canton, who are not seeking reelection in November.

When he finishes his term in January, Miner said, "I will have dedicated more than half my life to public service at the state and local level."

He added, "While not running for reelection has crossed my mind before, it has historically occurred over the two weeks immediately following the end of session. This time is different. I will not be seeking reelection this November. I look forward to more time with family and exploring what the next chapter of life holds."

His sprawling district in northwestern Litchfield County includes Brookfield, Canaan, Cornwall, Goshen, Kent, Litchfield, Morris, New Milford, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Torrington, Warren and Winchester.

Miner has served in key roles as the ranking member of the budget-writing and environment committees, among other responsibilities.

"I've been honored to work with my colleagues to better our state, to protect our environment, to support job creation and workers, to improve the state's financial management, and most importantly to give my constituents a voice and an advocate in Hartford," he said. "I have many very fond memories of my time and look forward to creating more in the months to come."

He added, "Representing the people of the 66th House District and the 30th Senate District has truly been an honor that I could never have imagined when this journey began. Much work still lies ahead this session to help people across our state rebuild and recover. Over the months ahead, I look

forward to my work that will be filled with hours of testimony, days of deliberation, and opportunity for spirited debate on legislation that will come before the General Assembly."

Soon after Miner's announcement, state Rep. Stephen Harding of Brookfield came to the state Capitol press room during the legislative session Thursday to announce that he is running for Miner's seat. A four-term lawmaker who won a special election in 2015, Harding said that he learned from Miner while serving together on the environment committee.

"Craig's shoes are going to be very difficult to fill," Harding told reporters.

In rural Litchfield County, bear sightings have become more common. Harding said the state needs to seek ways to "limit that human-bear interaction that is growing increasingly dangerous."

House

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to lose \$32.6 million per month in additional federal funding for food stamps for struggling families, along with \$20 million more from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, known as FEMA.

That money is needed for housing so that homeless people are not packed into close quarters and bunk beds in small shelters, where the virus could be transmitted more easily, officials said.

The three Democrats who voted against the extension were Jill Barry of Glastonbury, Raghib Allie-Brennan of Bethel, and Patrick Boyd of Pomfret. All Republicans voted against, and four Democrats were absent.

State Rep. Michael D'Agostino, a Hamden Democrat who explained the resolution, repeatedly told Republican lawmakers that extending the emergencies is separate from Lamont's authority.

"It does not extend the governor's powers," D'Agostino said on the House floor. "It has nothing — nothing — to do with the executive. ... The governor can exercise no power pursuant to this resolution."

Without the emergencies to preserve federal money, D'Agostino said, "Those funds could be in jeopardy."

Rep. Gale Mastrofrancesco, a conservative Republican who represents Wolcott and Southington, questioned whether the legislature was actually extending Lamont's powers and giving him authority to change state laws.

"It's very confusing, and I'm sure it's very confusing to people who are watching" on television, Mastrofrancesco said.

Mastrofrancesco spoke sharply against extending the emergencies, urging her colleagues to reject the resolution.

"There is no longer an emergency that determines that this action has to be taken today," said Mastrofrancesco. "Is there a number? Is there science? ... So when does the public health and civil preparedness emergency end? ... We have no metrics. What are we basing this on? It's on a whim. ... It has been two years."

She added, "The people of the state are tired. They want the legislature to do its job. Those executive orders — as far as I'm concerned, they should all go away. ... It seems to me that this is never going to end. This state will get back to normal when the federal government stops giving money to the states."

Rep. Harry Arora, a Greenwich Republican, agreed with Mastrofrancesco and other conservative Republicans.

"Most people in the state of Connecticut don't believe we're operating in a state of emergency," Arora said. "What we're hearing from constituents is that there is no emergency."

The resolution states that the legislature "hereby declares that a public health emergency and a civil preparedness emergency continue to exist throughout the state through June 30, 2022."

Rep. Rosa Rebimbas, a Naugatuck Republican who briefly left the chamber Thursday with Mastrofrancesco and others to protest a mask mandate for lawmakers, asked for the specific metrics needed to trigger the emergencies. The June 30 date, she said, makes no sense because the legislative session ends on May 4. Instead, she said, the emergency should end May 4.

D'Agostino said that he did not have the precise numbers — in hospitalizations, infections or deaths — that would trigger the emergencies.

"It is a legislative representation of where we've been, where we are, and where we're going over the next couple of weeks," he said. "There's a difference of opinion amongst legislators."

Lamont has not asked for his extraordinary powers to be extended, and they are expected to expire on Feb. 15.

Instead, Lamont has asked for the state's public health and civil preparedness emergencies to be extended so that the state can continue to receive all-important federal funding.

After the House votes on a separate bill regarding a mask mandate on Thursday, the Senate is expected to vote on Monday.

Christopher Keating can be reached at ckeating@courant.com



A framed portrait of Mother Ann Valencia, who led the founding of Saint Francis Hospital in 1897, hangs adjacent to a 20-member FEMA military medical team as it arrives Thursday to begin a 30-day mission to assist with COVID-19 related staffing shortages. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

Call

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skill-set to care for the sick and mitigate the suffering of the citizens of Connecticut."

President Joe Biden in Decem-

ber directed Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin to ready an additional 1,000 service members — military doctors, nurses, paramedics, and other medical personnel — to deploy to the nation's hospitals during January and February, as needed.

"We know that the most critical need right now is medical staffing for our hospitals," FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell said at a recent White House briefing, "and we've been working nonstop with the Department of Defense and Health and Human Services,

who have been on the ground in communities since day one to push even more medical teams out the door to communities who need it most."

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com

Yale

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In addition, they will assess the future capital needs of the facilities.

"As we begin to emerge from an international pandemic that has devastated many hospitals across this nation, it is critical that we think creatively about sustaining local access to high quality care," said Marna P. Borgstrom, CEO of YNHHS.

"Innovation has become a watchword for a post-pandemic health care environment, and we are all exploring clear opportunities to enhance access to high-quality care while driving down costs," Borgstrom said. "While this is at a very early stage, our goal is to sustain critical access to vital health care services directly in these local communities."

Under the proposal, the three hospitals would become affiliated with the Yale New Haven Health System, similar to Greenwich, Bridgeport and Lawrence + Memorial hospitals. At an unrelated health care announcement at Saint Francis Hospital in Hartford Thursday, Victoria Veltri, executive director of the Office of Health Strategy, and Gov. Ned Lamont both commented on the Yale New Haven Hospital deal.

coming in," she said. "What we need to do is have a vision about where the state wants to go with health care planning and then we can talk about the applications."

State Sen. Matt Lesser, co-chairman of the legislature's insurance committee, referring to attempts on the federal level to establish single payer health care financed by the government, said the Yale New Haven-Prospect Medical Holdings announcement could lead to a "single payee health care system. We're moving rapidly to just two hospital chains controlling health care."

He said lawmakers will take a "huge look at hospital consolidation" in the legislative session that began Wednesday.

A spokesperson for the Connecticut Hospital Association declined comment Thursday.

Yale New Haven Health employs more than 26,000 workers and 6,685 medical staff. It generated more than \$4.6 billion in net revenue and reports assets of about \$6.1 billion.

Eastern Connecticut Health Network operates Manchester Memorial Hospital and Rockville General Hospital, which combined generated \$756.1 million in operating revenue in 2020, according to the state Office of Health Strategy.

Vernon Mayor Dan Champagne said he looks forward "to working with the hospital to help with a smooth transition that will benefit our community."

"For 100 years Rockville General Hospital has served the health care needs of our residents," Champagne said.

"We are excited by the news that a world-class health care system is coming to our community," Vernon Town Administrator Michael Purcaro said. "As the acquisition proceeds and state regulators conduct their review, we look forward to learning more about how this transition will benefit the hospital, its employees and most importantly the residents of Vernon and surrounding communities."

Vin Petrini, a senior vice president of Yale New Haven Health, Nina Kruse of ECHN and Lauresha Xihiani of Waterbury HEALTH said that, as part of Yale New Haven Health, Waterbury HEALTH and ECHN would be able to enhance delivery of care across a wide spectrum of primary and specialty services.

Christopher O'Connor, president of Yale New Haven Health, said the

sale could benefit patients while providing care at a lower cost.

"Working with our partners at the Yale School of Medicine, we believe this could create a seamless and integrated delivery system that would serve the best interests of our patients in the most cost-effective manner possible throughout the state of Connecticut and the entire region," O'Connor said.

Dr. Keith Churchwell, president of Yale New Haven Hospital, agrees. "This relationship makes sense from a patient care perspective," he said. "We believe patients will benefit directly from the affiliation of these exceptional health systems with a Connecticut-based academic health system like Yale New Haven."

Deborah Weymouth, CEO of ECHN, said, "We are excited about the opportunity to join YNHHS. We are proud of our accomplishments and appreciative of the significant investments made by Prospect to increase quality, preserve jobs and respond to the pandemic."

Dr. Justin Lundbye, president and CEO of Waterbury HEALTH, said, "Waterbury is deeply committed to caring for our communities and adapting to the rapidly evolving health care landscape."

"Along with ECHN, we are proud of what we've accomplished, including investing millions of dollars in our communities, preserving jobs, increasing quality ratings, and being leaders in Connecticut's response to the pandemic. We are confident YNHHS will continue this legacy," Lundbye said.

Yale New Haven Health now operates Bridgeport Hospital, Greenwich Hospital, Lawrence + Memorial Hospital in New London, Yale New Haven Hospital and Westerly Hospital in Rhode Island. It also includes the Yale New Haven Children's Hospital, Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale New Haven and Yale New Haven Psychiatric Hospital.

tered Nurses, AFT Local 5143, said "As caregivers, we are concerned about Yale New Haven Health's takeover of the three Connecticut hospitals owned and operated by Prospect Medical Holdings, Inc."

"Rockville General Hospital in particular faces tremendous economic challenges, with a significant number of families in the town living below the federal poverty line," Ellis said. "It is our hope that this merger will result in improved quality and equity of care for this region."

Registered nurse Anne-Marie Cerra, president of the Manchester Federation of Registered Nurses, AFT Local 5055, said staff must hear how the expansion would affect patients, caregivers and communities, before "any proposed deal with our community hospitals is approved."

"We are cautiously optimistic that this development promises a better future for the hospitals in the Eastern Connecticut Health Network. We look forward to further, detailed discussions with Yale-New Haven Health Systems' executives," Cerra said in an email.

John Brady, also a registered nurse, vice president of AFT Connecticut, and formerly a registered nurse in the William Backus Hospital's emergency department, said AFT Connecticut represents health care workers in two of the three hospitals owned and operated by Prospect Medical Holdings, Inc.

"We are following this latest development closely because — no matter the outcome — it will impact our members and their patients," Brady said in an email. "It is paramount that we consider what Yale-New Haven Health's purchase of the Waterbury, Manchester and Rockville hospitals means for the patients, the caregivers and the communities surrounding these facilities."

Another health care giant in the state, with 33,000 employees and operating revenue of \$4.9 billion, is Hartford HealthCare; it operates Hartford Hospital, MidState Medical Center in Meriden, and five other acute care hospitals in the state. Trinity Health of New England, the parent company of Saint Francis and four other hospitals in Connecticut and Massachusetts, posted revenue of about \$2 billion and employs about 11,000 workers.

Union reaction

Union representatives of hundreds of nurses and allied health professionals at Manchester Memorial and Rockville General expressed cautious optimism about the plan but also stressed that members must consider what it means for workers as well as local communities.

Chrissy Ellis, a registered nurse at Rockville General's Gastroenterology Department, and president of the Rockville Federation of Regis-

Reporter Alex Putterman contributed to this story.

US presses Canada to end blockade

Alarms raised over economic fallout, spread of protests

By Rob Gillies and Tom Krisher
Associated Press

TORONTO — The Biden administration urged Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s government Thursday to use its federal powers to end the truck blockade by Canadians protesting the country’s COVID-19 restrictions, as the bumper-to-bumper demonstration forced auto plants on both sides of the border to shut down or scale back production.

For the fourth straight day, scores of truckers taking part in what they dubbed the Freedom Convoy blocked the Ambassador Bridge connecting Windsor, Ontario, to Detroit, disrupting the flow of auto parts and other products between the two countries.

The White House said Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas and Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg spoke with their Canadian counterparts and urged them to help resolve the standoff.

With political and economic pressure mounting, Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens announced the city will seek a court injunction to end the occupation.

“The economic harm is not sustainable and it must come to an end,” he said.

Meanwhile, the U.S. braced for the possibility of similar truck-borne protests inspired by the Canadians, and authorities in Paris and Belgium banned road blockades to head off disruptions there, too.

The U.S. Department of



A barrier of vehicles at the Ambassador Bridge on Thursday seals off traffic between the U.S. and Canada. COLE BURSTON/GETTY

Homeland Security said in a bulletin to local and state law enforcement agencies that it has received reports that truckers are planning to “potentially block roads in major metropolitan cities” in a protest against vaccine mandates and other issues.

The agency said the convoy could begin in Southern California as early as this weekend, possibly disrupting traffic around the Super Bowl on Sunday in Los Angeles, and reach Washington in March in time for the State of the Union, according to a copy of Tuesday’s bulletin obtained by The Associated Press.

The White House said the department is “surging

additional staff” to the Super Bowl just in case.

The ban on road blockades in Europe and the threat of prison and heavy fines were likewise prompted by online chatter from groups calling on drivers to converge on Paris and Brussels over the next few days.

The Ambassador Bridge is the busiest U.S.-Canadian border crossing, carrying 25% of all trade between the two countries, and the effects of the blockade there were felt rapidly.

Ford said its Windsor engine plant reopened Thursday after being shut down on Wednesday because of a lack of parts.

But the factory and the company’s assembly plant in Oakville, Ontario, near Toronto, were operating at reduced capacity, the automaker said.

On the U.S. side, General Motors canceled the second shift on Wednesday and the first and second on Thursday at its SUV factory outside Lansing, Michigan.

Toyota said three of its plants in Ontario closed for the rest of the week because of parts shortages, and production also had to be curtailed in Georgetown, Kentucky.

Workers on the morning shift at a Windsor minivan plant operated by Stellantis, formerly Fiat Chrysler, were

sent home early.

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer urged Canadian authorities to quickly resolve the standoff, saying: “It’s hitting paychecks and production lines. That is unacceptable.”

Hundreds of demonstrators in trucks have also paralyzed the streets of downtown Ottawa for almost two weeks now, and have now closed three border crossings: at Windsor; at Coutts, Alberta, opposite Montana; and at Emerson, Manitoba, across from North Dakota.

The protesters are decrying vaccine mandates for truckers and other COVID-19 restrictions and are rail-

ing against Trudeau, even though many of Canada’s precautions, such as mask rules and vaccine passports for getting into restaurants, theaters and other places, were enacted by provincial authorities, not the federal government, and are already rapidly being lifted as the omicron surge levels off.

Trudeau continued to stand firm against lifting vaccine mandates, including a requirement that all truck drivers entering the country be fully vaccinated. But because an estimated 90% of the nation’s truckers are already inoculated against the coronavirus, some conservatives have called on the prime minister to drop the mandate.

The convoy has been promoted and cheered on by many Fox News personalities and attracted support from the likes of former President Donald Trump and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.

The Associated Press identified more than a dozen Facebook groups encompassing roughly 500,000 members being used to drum up support for the Canadian protests or plan similar ones in the United States and Europe.

To get around the blockade and into Canada, truckers in the Detroit area have had to drive 70 miles north to Port Huron, Michigan, and cross the Blue Water Bridge, where there was a two-hour delay leaving the U.S.

The blockade is happening at a bad time for the U.S. auto industry. Supplies of new vehicles already are low across the nation because of the global shortage of computer chips, which has forced automakers to temporarily close factories.

Sources: Jan. 6 panel sees gaps in Trump’s call logs

Separate committee investigating files found at Fla. estate

By Mary Clare Jalonick and Colleen Long
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — White House call logs obtained by the House panel investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection at the U.S. Capitol do not list calls made by then-President Donald Trump as he watched the violence unfold on television, nor do they list calls made to the president, according to two people familiar with the probe.

The lack of information about Trump’s personal calls presents a challenge to investigators as they work to create the most comprehensive record yet of the attack, focusing on what the former president was doing in the White House as hundreds of his supporters beat police, broke into the Capitol and interrupted the certification of President Joe Biden’s victory.

The people were granted anonymity to discuss records that have not yet been released by the committee.

There are several possible explanations for omissions in the records, which

do not reflect conversations that Trump had that day with multiple Republican lawmakers, for example. Trump was known to use a personal cellphone, or he could have had a phone passed to him by an aide.

The committee is also continuing to receive records from the National Archives and other sources, which could produce additional information.

The gaps in the records of Trump’s calls on Jan. 6, first reported by The New York Times and CNN, come as a separate House committee said Thursday that it is investigating whether Trump violated the Presidential Records Act after boxes of presidential records were discovered at his Florida estate.

House Oversight and Reform Committee Chairwoman Carolyn Maloney, a Democrat from New York, said she was “deeply concerned that these records were not provided to the National Archives and Records Administration promptly at the end of the Trump administration and they appear to have been removed from the White House.”

The Jan. 6 committee is focused on Trump’s actions that day because he waited

hours to tell his supporters to stop the violence and leave the Capitol. The panel is also interested in the organization and financing of a rally that morning in Washington where Trump told his supporters to “fight like hell.”

Among the unanswered questions is how close organizers of the rally coordinated with White House officials.

In many cases, the committee may not need direct confirmation from the White House about Trump’s calls. Lawmakers have already interviewed more than 500 witnesses, including several people in Trump’s inner circle who may be able to fill in those gaps. They are hampered, though, by the former president’s claims of executive privilege over his personal conversations, which have prompted many witnesses to refuse to answer some questions.

The oversight panel is seeking communications between the National Archives and Trump’s aides about the missing boxes and information on what they may have contained. Maloney wrote a letter to the archivist, David Ferriero, seeking information on 15 boxes of records the



The Jan. 6 House committee is trying to piece together what President Donald Trump was doing while hundreds of his supporters broke into the U.S. Capitol. YURI GRIPAS/ABACA PRESS 2021

National Archives recovered from Trump at his Mar-a-Lago resort, in Palm Beach, Florida.

The Presidential Records Act mandates that records made by a sitting president and his staff be preserved in the archives, and an outgoing leader is responsible for turning over documents to the National Archives at the end of the term. Trump tried and failed to withhold White House documents from the Jan. 6 committee in a dispute that was decided by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The former president said

in a statement that following “collaborative and respectful discussions,” the National Archives arranged for the transport from Mar-a-Lago “boxes that contained Presidential Records in compliance with the Presidential Records Act.”

“The papers were given easily and without conflict and on a very friendly basis,” Trump said in the statement, which added that the records will one day become part of the Donald J. Trump Presidential Library.

The oversight panel wrote to the archivist in December

2020 as Trump’s term was winding down, detailing concerns that Democrats had about his destroying records in office.

The Washington Post has reported that Trump “tore up” data that was both “sensitive and mundane” and that the archivist has referred the matter to the Justice Department to investigate whether Trump violated the Records Act. The Justice Department, which would review the referral and decide whether to prosecute, did not comment.



New federal guidelines for prescribing opioids are being considered. KEVIN D. LILES/ THE NEW YORK TIMES 2017

CDC offers fresh recommendations on prescribing opioids

By Jan Hoffman
The New York Times

The federal government Thursday proposed new guidelines for prescribing opioid painkillers that remove its previous recommended ceilings on doses for chronic pain patients and instead encourage doctors to use their best judgment.

But the overall thrust of the recommendations was that doctors should first turn to “nonopioid therapies” for chronic and acute

pain, including prescription medications like gabapentin and over-the-counter ones like ibuprofen, as well as physical therapy, massage and acupuncture.

The 12 recommendations, issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, are the first comprehensive revisions of the agency’s opioid prescribing guidelines since 2016. They walk a fine line between embracing the need for doctors to prescribe opioids to alleviate some cases of

severe pain while guarding against exposing patients to the drugs’ perils.

The proposal warns of addiction and other dangers associated with opioids, but it also notes that the drugs serve an important medical purpose, especially for easing the agony from traumatic injuries such as burns and crushed bones. In those instances, doctors should start with the lowest effective dose and prescribe immediate-release pills, the recommendations said.

The recommendations are open for public comment. The agency will most likely issue a final version by the end of 2022. Like the 2016 guidelines, they are suggested practices.

The guidelines do not apply to patients suffering pain from cancer or sickle cell, or are in end-of-life or palliative care.

The 2016 guidelines generated anger and fear in many chronic pain patients. Hundreds of pain medicine specialists protested as well.

Although the dosing ceilings were a recommendation, dozens of states codified them. Fearing criminal and civil penalties, many doctors misapplied them as rigid standards.

The new proposed recommendations build in “flexibility to recognize that pain care needs to be individualized,” said Christopher Jones, a co-author of the draft and acting director of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.

WORLD & NATION

School leaders stuck in the middle

Mask mandates still a divisive issue as more states lift bans

By Carolyn Thompson
Associated Press

As some of the last state-wide school mask mandates near an end, responsibility is shifting back to local leaders, who are caught in the middle of one of the most divisive issues of the pandemic.

In the hours after Connecticut's governor announced its mandate would end later this month, the school superintendent in Cheshire was peppered Monday with messages from families who feel masks are critical for protecting students and others who have long been opposed.

The issue of masks in schools has been so contentious in much of the country that school board meetings have devolved into shouting matches and arrests, superintendents have seen protesters outside their homes, and slates of candidates — pro- and anti-mask — have sought school board seats in an attempt to shape policies.

“Unfortunately, this is an issue where you are not going to make everybody happy,” Superintendent Jeffrey Solan said.

If the decision had to be made right away, Solan said, his district in New Haven's suburbs would not be mask-optional, based on metrics developed with local health officials, including vaccination and infection rates.

Some school officials around the country welcomed the state-imposed mandates to spare them from having to make unpopular decisions, especially early in the pandemic. But many superintendents say they now have the tools to decide whether masks should be required, and they welcome



Students get off the bus and head to class at Roseway Heights Middle School in Portland, Oregon. CRAIG MITCHELLDYER/FOR PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2021

the ability to adapt as needed.

The governors of Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey and Oregon this week announced plans to lift mandates in schools by the end of February or March, as COVID-19's omicron surge fades. State leaders added Massachusetts to the list Wednesday.

The states are among a dozen that have kept mask mandates in schools as others have dropped them, according to the nonpartisan National Academy for State Health Policy.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention still recommends masks for teachers and staff inside buildings, leaving district leaders to weigh the federal guidance against what they have seen in their own schools and heard from the parents and teachers.

Some districts includ-

ing Philadelphia; Wichita, Kansas; and Albuquerque, New Mexico; have continued to require masks despite the end of state mandates.

Many others have made them optional.

West Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Superintendent Wesley Watts said it was comforting at the outset that all schools required masks, but that was then. His school district stopped requiring masks at the end of October, once school systems were allowed to opt out of a state mandate as long as they enforced quarantines in line with CDC recommendations.

“Just knowing the pulse of our community, they were ready for it,” Watts said.

On Wednesday, Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker said the state will lift its indoor mask mandate Feb. 28. But the mandate will stay in place in

schools as the state appeals a judge's ruling that called into question Pritzker's authority for mandating face coverings, quarantines, and, for school staff, vaccinations or testing.

Superintendent Joshua Stafford said his Vienna, Illinois, school district made masks optional this week following the judge's ruling.

“We're two years into this thing. So we do have some data, we have some trend history, we have some things that we can look at,” he said.

“On the other side of that coin, you also have those who suffer from autoimmune disorders, other extenuating health circumstances, and that has to be weighed in the balance of this global pandemic and the response to it as well,” Stafford said, “and so it's not an easy decision or a light decision.”

School superintendents generally prefer flexibility to make their own decisions on mask requirements based on virus infection numbers and vaccination rates, said Dan Domenech, executive director of the School Superintendents Association.

“What we've seen in this country is that the pandemic and the level of infections is very much dependent on where you are,” he said.

In a number of states, including Maryland and Virginia, he said, districts have been dropping and reimposing mask requirements to adapt to the latest virus numbers.

So how do superintendents deal with complaints from all sides about masks in schools?

“That's why superintendents are leaving the profession in numbers, because

they're caught in the middle. They're damned if they do. They're damned if they don't,” Domenech said.

In Oregon, he said, three superintendents have been fired for implementing a state mask mandate because school boards did not want them to be required.

In New York, Democratic Gov. Kathy Hochul said Wednesday the state's school mask mandate, scheduled to end Feb. 21, will remain in place at least through the end of the month and be re-examined in early March.

Hochul said the plan would allow time for COVID-19 testing and analysis following districts' upcoming winter breaks.

“This is very much top of mind for us,” she said.

The Chicago Tribune contributed.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
FRIDAY
FEB 11
GAMPEL PAVILION
7:00 PM

 vs 

MEN'S BASKETBALL
WEDNESDAY
FEB 16
GAMPEL PAVILION
8:30 PM

 vs 

MEN'S HOCKEY
FRIDAY
FEB 18
XL CENTER
7:05 PM


 vs 



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WORLD & NATION

‘She finally gets her time to shine’

Black women hail historic high court pledge from Biden

By Jocelyn Noveck and Deepti Hajela
Associated Press

NEW YORK — When the pressure gets intense, law student Jasmine Marchbanks-Owens likes to wander the hallways of Howard University, examining the photos of prominent Black graduates.

“It’s just really inspiring to be able to see people that look like me that attended this university and became attorneys,” says the first-year student, whose great-great grandmother was born into slavery.

Most of the faces are men. But Marchbanks-Owens stops by the photo of one prominent woman, Pauli Murray, a 1944 graduate whose legal theories influenced the landmark school desegregation case *Brown v. Board of Education*, argued by future Supreme Court justice Thurgood Marshall. In 1971, Murray also wrote then-President Richard Nixon, mostly tongue-in-cheek, to suggest that Nixon make her the first woman on the high court.

Black women, Marchbanks-Owens points out, have been the backbone of social justice movements throughout history, from women’s suffrage to Black Lives Matter. But they’ve barely been visible. And that’s why it’s so meaningful to her that a Black woman will soon be elevated to the Supreme Court.

“It’s just something I never thought I would see,” she says. “And it definitely matters.”

Marchbanks-Owens, 26, is one of many Black women who’ve been buoyed by President Joe Biden’s pledge to nominate a Black woman to the court. Like them, though, she’s also disheartened by talk from the likes of



Ashley Brickhouse, left, Jasmine Marchbanks-Owens and Michael Peoples attend Howard University School of Law. President Joe Biden’s pledge to nominate the first Black woman to the Supreme Court pleases Marchbanks-Owens. CAROLYN KASTER/AP

Sens. Ted Cruz of Texas and Roger Wicker of Mississippi, who have sought to diminish the appointment as an example of affirmative action that disadvantages white people.

These critics have it backward, Marchbanks-Owens says, arguing that Black women have had to work harder at every step of the way to succeed in an overwhelmingly white profession. The Black woman Biden ends up appointing, she says, “is going to probably be more qualified than anyone else on the bench, because ... we have learned to be the most qualified. To be able to have a role or a seat at the table, you have to be better.”

Jasmine Armand agrees. The first-year bankruptcy attorney at a Chicago law firm doesn’t want anyone to think: “She got this job because she is Black.” Rather, says Armand, “She got this job because she is

remarkable and exceptionally qualified for this role — as countless Black women before her have been. It’s just that now she finally gets her time to shine, and as an additional, fantastic bonus, she’s also a Black woman.”

Armand said she’s been inspired to think about Malcolm X, and his view that “the least protected person in America is the Black woman. I continue to see how true it is. Oftentimes we’re hard-pressed to see who truly advocates and cares for Black women, besides perhaps other Black women. We are worthy of protection, admiration, investment and encouragement.”

Indeed, for Armand, 29, the ascension of a Black woman to the highest court will have a crucial impact in terms of people’s access to justice, which “is not just getting people connected to resources,” she says. “It’s, ‘Who is the arbiter of

justice?’”

Women of different ages echoed a common theme: Just seeing a Black woman on the court would have an incalculable effect, especially for young people, much the way seeing Barack Obama become the first Black president did. Jemelleh Coes, director of teacher leadership for Mount Holyoke College, thought of the potential impact on her daughters, 9 and 2.

“I am raising them to be as bold as they can be, as thoughtful as they can be, as caring as they can be, as empowering as they can be,” said Coes, 36, who lives in Athens, Georgia. “To be able to look at other women in positions of power for them is paramount.” She noted how her 9-year-old had been transfixed when watching Stacey Abrams’ 2018 campaign for governor. “I see the way that they look at Black women in power,”

she said. “It’s very different from the ways they look at power in general.”

California mother Jakki McIntosh, 35, hoped that the appointment would help bolster what she always tries to tell her daughters, ages 16, 15 and 11. “A lot of times with my girls, I tell them that you can basically be anything that you want to be, but at the same time, it’s like, ‘Yeah, we hear you Mom, but we don’t necessarily see that.’”

A Black woman on the Supreme Court would push back against the idea that they are somehow less capable, said McIntosh, who lives in Colusa, California, and also has a 3-year-old son. “For the most part, our society is really patriarchal ... (often) women are looked at as lesser than, and very unfortunately, Black women seem to be looked at as even less than that.”

Three women mentioned as leading candidates are a federal appeals court judge,

a federal district court judge and a state Supreme Court justice, all with impeccable professional and academic credentials. Two of the women clerked for Supreme Court justices.

Jessica Davis, a first-year student at the University of Georgia Law School, recalled that in fourth grade, she had “the lofty idea of becoming president of the United States.” Her teacher, though, had different ideas: “I remember my teacher telling me to be more realistic, and to perhaps think about something else.”

“Just thinking about seeing a Black woman on the Supreme Court, the same court that upheld slavery with the *Dred Scott* decision, the same court that said that we could be ‘separate but equal’ is just amazing,” Marchbanks-Owens, too, thought of the nation’s legacy of slavery when she heard of Biden’s plans to nominate a Black woman. Specifically she thought of her great-great grandmother, who she says was born into slavery on a South Carolina plantation.

“When I think about a Black woman on the bench and when I think just about the legacy of enslavement, it’s very profound to me,” she says.

She also recalls her grandparents watching in amazement when Obama became president, “telling me they never thought they would see something like that in their lifetime. And in my lifetime, I’ve seen that, I’ve seen Kamala Harris become vice president, and now I’m going to see someone who looks like me become a justice on the Supreme Court.”

Marchbanks-Owens already knows what she’d say to the new justice.

“I think your story is just incredible,” she says she’d tell her. “And I’m happy to be living in a time where something like this is possible for someone who looks like me. ... And I would love to work under you.”



Ukrainian forces brush up on training during an exercise Thursday in the Donetsk region. Ukraine has issued a warning on upcoming Russian naval exercises. VADIM GHIRDA/AP

Diplomatic efforts continue amid Russian drills in Belarus

By Anton Troianovski
The New York Times

MOSCOW — Thousands of Russian troops began 10 days of military exercises Thursday in Belarus, and Ukraine warned of upcoming Russian naval drills so extensive that they would block shipping lanes, as the Kremlin continued to position forces in a way that left Ukraine vulnerable to a multipronged invasion.

In Moscow, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov gave a bleak assessment of the diplomatic efforts aimed at deterring a full-scale Russian attack, dismissing talks with his British counterpart as a conversation of a “mute person with a deaf person.”

President Vladimir Putin was slightly more conciliatory, telling reporters that negotiations with the West were continuing over Russia’s demands to reshape the security architecture of Eastern Europe. He said Russia was preparing written responses in its back-and-forth with the United States and NATO, and added that he was planning to speak by phone in the coming days with Pres-

ident Emmanuel Macron of France.

But the intensifying Russian military activity north, east and south of Ukraine gave an ominous undertone to the diplomatic scramble.

In Belarus, Ukraine’s northern neighbor and Russia’s closest international ally, Russian fighter jets launched patrols, and Russia’s S-400 air defense systems were deployed near the Ukrainian border. Russian marines normally based in eastern Siberia — more than 2,500 miles away — practiced urban warfare, the Russian Defense Ministry said.

And off Ukraine’s southeastern coast, Russia was preparing to hold large-scale naval exercises — prompting a protest from Ukraine that they were blocking vital trading routes. Ukraine said the planned drills were “an abuse of international law” by Russia “in order to achieve its own geopolitical goals,” and it called on other countries to bar Russian ships from their ports.

Russia described all the drills as legal under international law and promised

that its troops would leave Belarus after the exercises there conclude Feb. 20. But Western officials worry that the exercises could be a cover to position more Russian forces around Ukraine.

Gen. Mark Milley, chair of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, spoke by phone with his Belarusian counterpart, Maj. Gen. Viktor Gulevich, on Thursday. The two discussed “regional security related issues of concern,” the Pentagon said in a statement, adding that it was intended partly “to reduce chances of miscalculation.”

Diplomatic efforts to resolve the crisis are scheduled to continue.

Ben Wallace, the British defense minister, is expected to visit Moscow this week to meet his Russian counterpart. Next week, Chancellor Olaf Scholz of Germany is due in Moscow for talks with Putin.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said during a visit to NATO headquarters in Brussels on Thursday that he did not think Russia had made a decision on whether to launch an invasion.

US: Civilian toll in Syria raid may be higher than thought

By Lolita C. Baldor
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. military officials said Thursday there could have been more civilian casualties than initially thought in the special operations forces raid that killed the top Islamic State leader in Syria last week, but believe any deaths were not at the hands of American forces.

Officials also said that they cannot be certain that Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Qurayshi detonated the bomb that killed him and his family at his home in Atmeh near the Turkish border.

But they said it was set off by him or someone else on the third floor of the building where he lived. Previously the Pentagon and President Joe Biden had said al-Qurayshi blew up himself, his wife and two children. The military officials said Thursday they believe that is the most likely scenario but have no evidence to back that up.

They also said it’s possible that others could have been with him and killed in that blast. They said “multiple bodies” were thrown from the building and buried in the rubble, and while they know al-Qurayshi and his family died, they can’t rule out the possibility that other bodies were hidden in the collapse and not seen by the troops.

Two senior military officials involved in the planning or execution of the operation provided the most details to date on the Feb. 2 raid, pushing back against claims by residents and other activist groups that the U.S. operation killed as many as 13 people, including civilians. They spoke on condition of anonymity as a condition for providing the briefing.

The Biden administration and the Pentagon have come under criticism recently for failing to provide evidence



U.S. military officials do not know for sure whether Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Qurayshi detonated the bomb that killed him and his family in Atmeh, Syria. GHAITH ALSAYED/AP

of a number of national security claims, including proof of their efforts to avoid civilian casualties in operations such as the Syria raid and their account of a suicide bombing in Afghanistan in August.

The Britain-based Syria Observatory for Human Rights and the opposition-run Syrian Civil Defense said 13 people, including children and women, were killed in shelling and clashes that ensued after the U.S. commando raid. It’s not clear whether those included al-Qurayshi and his family.

On Thursday, the military officials acknowledged they have no video of the house explosion in Syria or of the efforts to get civilians out of the house. According to the military, a family with four children on the first floor responded to calls from the troops and interpreters and got out of the house to safety. As they left, the explosion tore through the third floor.

Military officials said, for the first time, that individuals in the house shot at troops before the Americans started to enter the building after the explosion. An IS member, described as a lieutenant of al-Qurayshi’s, and his wife were on the second

floor, with as many as five children. Officials said U.S. forces killed the militant and his wife in a gunbattle.

The troops safely brought four children from the second floor out of the house. But a toddler was found dead there, and the military officials said Thursday that it is not certain how the child died. They said no gunshot wounds were found and that the child may have been killed by the third-floor explosion.

The officials said two al-Qaida-linked militants with automatic weapons approached the house in an effort to attack the U.S. force and were killed. But the officials said other armed citizens in the area were not harmed because they did not pose a threat.

Explaining the lack of video of the house explosion, the officials said the team was watching the building, and overhead surveillance was focused on the surrounding area to detect any potential threats to the force. They said there is also no body-cam video.

The officials also revealed that the U.S., which wanted to capture al-Qurayshi alive, had made plans to turn him over to another unnamed government. One official said the U.S. would have detained him temporarily.

WORLD & NATION

NEWS BRIEFING

Holocaust restitution bill in Latvia approved after years of debate

From news services

HELSINKI — Latvia's parliament passed a Holocaust restitution bill Thursday that includes compensation for lost Jewish property and funding to revitalize the Baltic nation's Jewish community, which was almost completely wiped out during World War II.

Following years of wrangling over the issue, the 100-seat Saeima voted 64-21 to approve the Law on the Compensation of Goodwill to the Latvian Jewish Community on the bill's final reading.

"Finalizing this process demonstrates that even 77 years after the end of the Holocaust, it is never too late for justice," said Arkady Sukharenko, chairman of the Latvian Council of Jewish Communities.

Lengthy negotiations involving the World Jewish Restitution Organization, or WJRO, Latvian Jewish representatives and government authorities started in 2005.

The United States and Israel also were involved.

The bill authorizes spending \$45 million over 10 years to revitalize Latvia's 9,500-strong Jewish community, provide social and material assistance to Holocaust survivors, and to fund Jewish schools, building restoration and cultural projects.

"For the (Jewish) community, we hope now to turn the page and close the book of World War II and its legacy," Dmitry Krupnikov, head of the Latvian Jewish Community Restitution Fund.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken tweeted praise for "Latvia's ongoing work to preserve the memory of the Holocaust and promote education about this dark period in history."

Latvia was occupied in June 1940 by the Soviet Red Army, which was pushed away a year later by Nazi Germany's advancing troops.

Moscow retook Latvia in late 1944, and the country remained part of the Soviet Union until it gained independence in 1991.

Texas abortions: Abortions in Texas fell by 60% in the first month under the most restrictive abortion law in the country in decades, according to new figures.

The nearly 2,200 abortions reported by Texas providers in September came after a new law took effect that bans the procedure once cardiac activity is detected, usually around six weeks of pregnancy and without exceptions in cases of rape or incest.

The figures were released this month by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

Planned Parenthood issued a statement calling the numbers "the very beginning of the devastating impact" of the law.

The Texas law conflicts with landmark U.S. Supreme Court rulings that prevent a state from banning abortion early in pregnancy, but was written in a way that has essentially outmaneuvered those precedents.

Riot sentence milestone: A Seattle man who punched two police officers during last year's riot at the U.S. Capitol was sentenced to six months in prison Thursday, as the Justice Department reached a milestone in one of the largest federal investigations in American history.

Mark Leffingwell, a 52-year-old military veteran who was wounded in Iraq, is at least the 100th person to be sentenced after pleading guilty to a Capitol riot-related



California wildfire: Firefighters watch as a helicopter drops water on a wildfire Thursday in California's Orange County. The blaze, driven by gusty Santa Ana winds, was reported before dawn near Laguna Beach, about 45 miles southeast of Los Angeles, and forced several hundred residents to flee. The fire burned about 145 acres, but no homes were lost. RINGO H.W. CHIU/AP

charge, according to a review of court records.

More than 730 people have been charged with federal crimes stemming from the riot on Jan. 6, 2021. Over 210 of them have pleaded guilty, mostly to misdemeanors with a maximum sentence of 6 months imprisonment.

Leffingwell is the fifth rioter to be sentenced for assaulting police at the Capitol.

The others received prison sentences ranging from 41 to 63 months in prison.

Hijab controversy: A court in a southern Indian state told students Thursday not to wear any religious clothing until it delivers a verdict on petitions seeking to overturn a ban on headscarves used by Muslim women.

The court in Karnataka state is considering petitions filed by students challenging a ban on hijabs that some schools have implemented in recent weeks.

The court also directed the

state to reopen schools and colleges that the chief minister had shut for three days as protests over the ban escalated earlier this week.

Last month, a government-run school in Karnataka's Udupi district barred students wearing hijabs from entering classrooms, triggering protests outside the school gate. More schools in the state followed with similar bans.

The standoff has raised fears among Muslim students who say they are being deprived of their religious rights in the Hindu-majority nation.

On Monday, hundreds of students and parents took to the streets in protest of the restriction.

Libya PM: Libya's east-based parliament Thursday appointed a new prime minister, a development that counters U.N. efforts to reconcile the divided country and will likely produce two parallel administrations.

The House of Representatives said its decision followed the incumbent premier's failure to hold national elections in December, something that was agreed to under a U.N.-mediated peace process.

East-based lawmakers named former Interior Minister Fathi Bashagha to replace Abdul Hamid Dbeibah as head of a new interim government, according to the parliament spokesman, Abdullah Bliheg. However, Dbeibah is unlikely to cede power.

There was no immediate reaction to his appointment from the interim administration in the capital, Tripoli.

Libya has been wracked by conflict since the NATO-backed uprising toppled then-killed longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi in 2011.

The country has for years been split between rival administrations in the east and west, each supported by militias and foreign governments.

Prince Charles infected: Britain's Prince Charles has tested positive for COVID-19 and is self-isolating, his office said.

A message on his official Twitter page said Charles tested positive Thursday morning and was "deeply disappointed" not to be able to attend a scheduled visit to southern England.

Charles, 73, met dozens of people during a reception Wednesday at London's British Museum. He was accompanied by his wife, Camilla.

Charles' office confirmed he is triple vaccinated. It was not clear what his condition was.

Charles previously contracted the coronavirus in March 2020, during the first wave of the pandemic. Officials said he had mild COVID-19 symptoms then.

Britain's Press Association news agency reported that Charles recently met with his mother, Queen Elizabeth II, but the monarch was not displaying any symptoms.

Official Approved Notice from U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Connecticut

Sexual Abuse and General Claims in The Roman Catholic Diocese of Norwich, Connecticut Bankruptcy

The Norwich Roman Catholic Diocesan Corporation, a/k/a the Roman Catholic Diocese of Norwich ("Diocese" or "Debtor") has filed bankruptcy in order to restructure its nonprofit organization. Please read this notice carefully as it may impact your rights against the Diocese and provides information about the case, *In re The Norwich Roman Catholic Diocesan Corporation* (Bankr. D. Conn.). This notice is a short summary.

Who Should File a Sexual Abuse Claim?

Anyone who was sexually abused, on or before July 15, 2021, and believes the Diocese may be responsible for the sexual abuse must file a claim. This includes sexual abuse in connection with any entity or activity associated with the Diocese. Sexual Abuse Claims include but are not limited to: sexual misconduct, touching, inappropriate contact, or sexual comments about a person or other behaviors that led to abuse, and regardless of whether you thought the behavior was sexual abuse or not.

When Should I File a Sexual Abuse Claim?

Regardless of how old you are today or when the sexual abuse occurred, you need to file your claim so that it is received by 5 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on March 15, 2022.

If you do not file a timely Sexual Abuse Claim, you may lose rights against the Diocese and against Diocese Related Entities, including any right to compensation.

Your information will be kept private. For a list of names of clergy that have been identified in connection with sexual abuse claims, go to <https://www.norwichdiocese.org/Find/Accused-Clergy>. For more information on the bankruptcy case, go to <https://dm.epiq11.com/case/rcdn> or call 1-855-654-0902.

The Sexual Abuse Bar Date of March 15, 2022 is not subject to further extension, even if there is a change in the applicable statute of limitations. You should consider submitting a proof of claim even if you believe your claim may be subject to an affirmative defense such as a statute of limitations.

When Should I File a General Bar Date Claim?

If you have a non-sexual abuse claim, you will need to file so that it is received by 5 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on March 15, 2022. More information is available at <https://dm.epiq11.com/case/rcdn>.

ACT NOW Before Time Runs Out:

You can download and file a claim at the website or call the toll-free number listed below for help on how to file a claim by mail.

File a Proof of Claim.

Have questions? Call or visit the website for more information.

If your claim is approved, you may receive compensation from the bankruptcy.

<https://dm.epiq11.com/case/rcdn> 1-855-654-0902



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TRIBUNE PUBLISHING

BUSINESS

COURANT.COM/BUSINESS

A #MeToo milestone bill is closer to becoming law

Congress approves bipartisan legislation aimed at workplace sexual harassment

By Michelle L. Price
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Congress on Thursday gave final approval to legislation guaranteeing that people who experience sexual harassment at work can seek recourse in the courts, a milestone for the #MeToo movement that prompted a national reckoning on the way sexual misconduct claims are handled.

The measure, which is expected to be signed by President Joe Biden, bars employment contracts from forcing people to settle sexual assault or harassment cases through arbitration rather than in court, a process that often benefits employers and keeps misconduct allegations from becoming public.

Significantly, the bill is retroactive, nullifying that language in contracts nationwide and opening the door for people who had been bound by it to take legal action.

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, who has spearheaded the effort, called it “one of the most significant workplace reforms in American

history.”

Gillibrand, D-N.Y., said the arbitration process is secretive and biased and denies people a basic constitutional right: a day in court.

“No longer will survivors of sexual assault or harassment in the workplace come forward and be told that they are legally forbidden to sue their employer because somewhere buried in their employment contracts was this forced arbitration clause,” she said.

Gillibrand, who has focused on combating sexual harassment and sexual misconduct in the military, originally introduced the legislation in 2017 with Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C.

The legislation had bipartisan support in a divided Congress. That allowed the bill to be passed in the Senate by unanimous consent — a procedure almost never used for significant legislation, especially one affecting tens of millions of Americans.

The House passed the bill this week on a robust bipartisan basis in a 335-97 vote. An estimated 60 million American work-

ers have clauses tucked into their employment contracts forcing them to settle any allegations of sexual misconduct in private arbitration proceedings, rather than in court. The widespread practice has come under fire in the wake of the #MeToo movement for forcing employees to seek recourse without a jury, a chance to appeal a decision or the sunlight of a public court process.

The secretive nature of binding arbitration protects companies and perpetrators, critics contend, and allows corporations to avoid changing any policies or removing serial abusers.

The clauses barring lawsuits are not just limited to employment contracts but have been found in other service agreements, preventing those who were sexually assaulted at nursing homes or massage parlors from taking their claims to court.

Defenders of the arbitration process, including business groups, have contended it is a faster and cheaper way to resolve disputes than through courtroom proceedings.

Diller group to end print editions of 6 magazines

By Tiffany Hsu
The New York Times

Six magazines operated by media mogul Barry Diller through his Dotdash Meredith group will immediately stop publishing in print and move online.

The move, which affects Entertainment Weekly, InStyle, EatingWell, Health, Parents and People en Español, will lead to 200 job cuts, according to a memo sent to employees Wednesday. The cuts amount to less than 5% of the company’s total workforce.

The magazines were acquired last year by Dotdash, a subsidiary of Diller’s InterActiveCorp, when it bought the publishing giant Meredith Corp. for roughly \$2.7 billion.

“We have said from the beginning, buying Meredith was about buying brands, not magazines or websites,” Neil Vogel, the chief executive of Dotdash Meredith, wrote in the memo, which was obtained by The New York Times. “It is not news to anyone that there has been a pronounced shift in readership and advertising from print to digital, and as a result, for a few important brands, print is no longer serving the brand’s core purpose.”

The online audience for Parents, InStyle and EatingWell increased 40% compared with last year, according to the memo, which was first reported by The Wall Street Journal.

Dotdash Meredith also runs People, Better Homes & Gardens, Food & Wine and other publications that will remain in print.

Vogel said that the company planned to invest more than \$80 million in content this year and print more than 350 million magazines.

“Today’s step is not a cost savings exercise and it is not about capturing synergies or any other acquisition jargon, it is about embracing the inevitable digital future for the affected brands,” he said in the memo.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

TVA to start new nuclear program

The largest public power company in the U.S. is launching a program to develop and fund new small modular nuclear reactors as part of its strategy to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The board for the Tennessee Valley Authority on Thursday authorized the program to assess moving forward with new nuclear technology, with up to \$200 million to be spent for the first phase. The TVA wants the technology to be available to help power the grid in the 2030s if the Nuclear Regulatory Commission approves.

The federally owned utility provides electricity to seven states. By 2050, it hopes reach net-zero emissions, which is the amount of greenhouse gases produced is no more than the amount removed from the atmosphere.

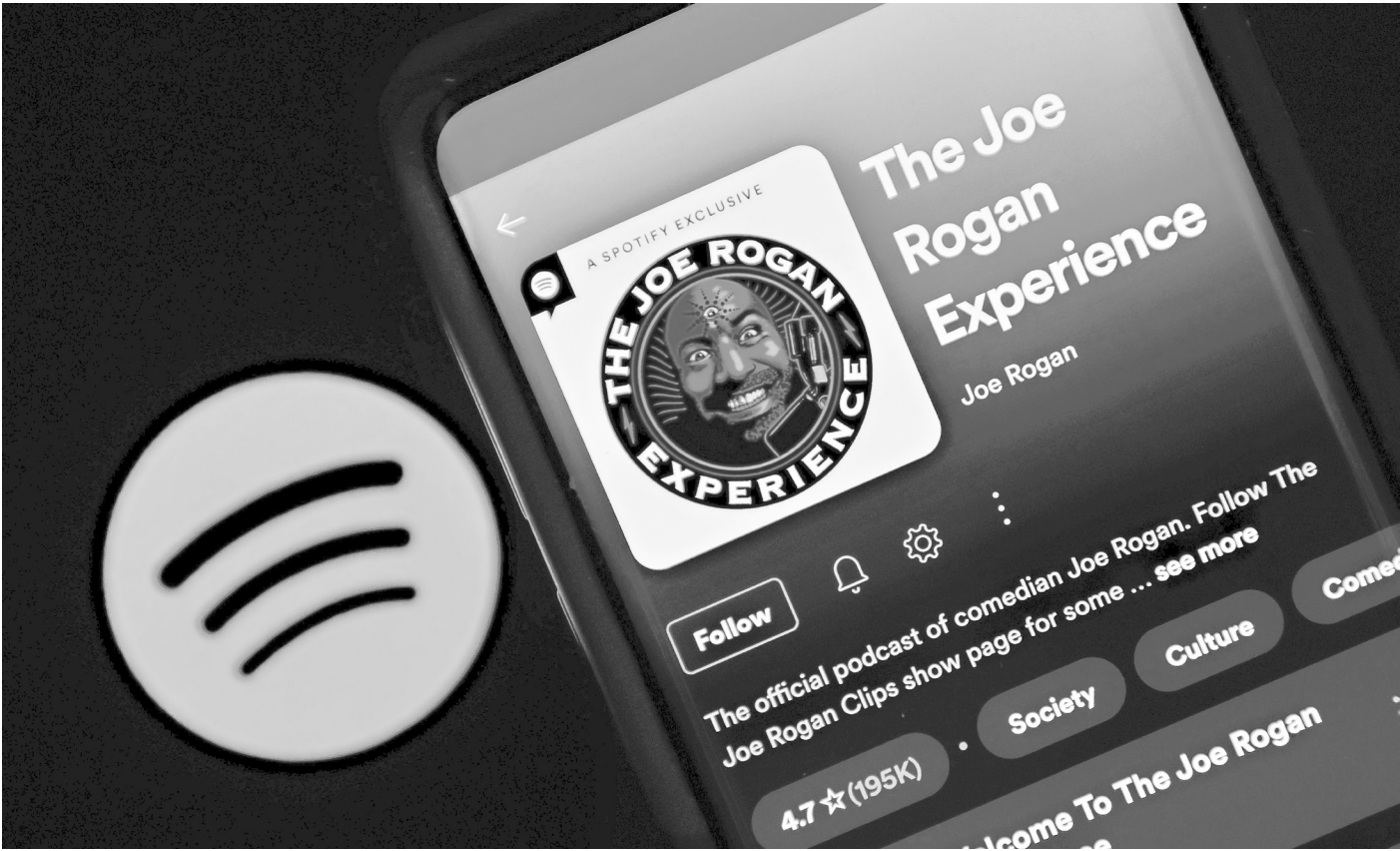
Weekly jobless claims fall again

WASHINGTON — The number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits declined for the third consecutive week.

Jobless claims fell to 223,000 last week from 239,000 the previous week, the Labor Department reported Thursday.

The four-week average for claims, which compensates for weekly volatility, declined by 2,000 to 253,250 after rising for five weeks in a row as the omicron variant of the coronavirus spread, disrupting business in many parts of the country.

Last week, the Labor Department reported a burst of hiring in January, with employers adding 467,000 jobs. The unemployment rate inched up to a still-low 4% from 3.9%, as more people began looking for work, but not all of them securing jobs.



Spotify is reported to have spent \$100 million to become the sole distributor of “The Joe Rogan Experience” podcast. CINDY ORD/GETTY

For Spotify, a balancing act

Rogan dispute has streaming service trying to satisfy fans without alienating others

By David Bauder
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Like Facebook and Twitter, Spotify is learning the limits of deflecting responsibility for what is said on its platform.

Podcasting has sprouted as an industry with few standards about policing offensive or misleading content. That has left Spotify trying to figure out how to keep Joe Rogan’s millions of fans happy without further alienating artists and listeners angry about him amplifying vaccine skeptics and using slurs.

Spotify wants to be viewed as a technology platform that has limited liability for the material others create and stream — a position shared by many social-media companies.

But experts say that is difficult to defend after Spotify reportedly spent \$100 million to become the sole distributor of “The Joe Rogan Experience.”

“They are acting like they should get treated as a platform — when they are acting like a media company,” said Jennifer Grygiel, a Syracuse University commu-

nications professor and an expert on social media. “You can’t have it every way you want.”

In an effort to expand scrutiny beyond musicians and listeners, singer Neil Young urged Spotify employees Monday to quit “before it eats up your soul.” Last week, Young pulled his music from Spotify after a group of doctors called out Rogan for his interview of a man who has spread COVID-19 misinformation.

After musician India.Arie revealed last week on Instagram that Rogan had repeatedly used the N-word, he apologized, and Spotify pulled dozens of past episodes from circulation. But Spotify’s CEO, Daniel Ek, has said that silencing him is not the answer.

Besides, Ek said in a letter to employees Sunday, Spotify is not the publisher of “The Joe Rogan Experience.”

“But perception due to our exclusive license implies otherwise,” Ek said. “So I’ve been wrestling with how this perception squares with our values.”

Spotify dominates podcasting. It has 44% of all podcast user market share — Apple, Amazon and Google are each less than half its size, according to Midea Research.

Major podcast companies have largely escaped scrutiny about misinformation. Instead, they have taken down individual podcasts that get bad press for violating stated policies or spreading conspiracy

theories. That has resulted in a messy patchwork of shows that have been banned on some tech platforms but are readily available elsewhere.

For example, conspiracy theorist Alex Jones is banned from Apple, Spotify, YouTube and Facebook — but not Google Podcasts.

Podcasts are difficult to moderate, said Valerie Wirtschafter, a data analyst at the Brookings Institute who has researched misinformation on the popular ones. They can run anywhere from 20 minutes to hours, and there are millions of episodes about everything from serial killers to cooking to politics.

“That is an unwieldy world,” Wirtschafter said.

Spotify has said that it takes down podcasts that violate its policies against hate speech and break laws. The company publicly revealed its guidelines for the first time following questions raised by Young’s action, and said it would add content advisories regarding COVID-19.

When companies start paying content creators, as Spotify does with Rogan and as other platforms do with other high-profile influencers, that can change the game. Facebook last summer announced a \$1 billion fund for creators, wading further into “media company” territory even as it tries to shed that moniker.

Tesla’s ‘Boombox’ function spurs new recall

By Tom Krisher
Associated Press

DETROIT — Tesla is recalling nearly 579,000 vehicles in the country because a “Boombox” function can play sounds over an external speaker and obscure audible warnings for pedestrians.

It is the fourth Tesla recall made public in the last two weeks as U.S. safety regulators increase scrutiny of the nation’s largest electric vehicle maker. In two of the recalls, Tesla made decisions that violate federal motor vehicle safety standards, while the others are software errors.

The cars and SUVs have what Tesla calls a “Boombox” function that allows drivers to play sounds while the vehicles are

moving, according to data Thursday on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration website. This violates federal safety standards that require pedestrian warning noises for electric cars, which make little noise when in motion, the agency says.

The problem will be repaired with an over-the-air software update that will disable “Boombox,” in drive, reverse or neutral, the agency said.

“The Boombox functionality allows a customer to play preset or custom sounds through the PWS (pedestrian warning system) external speaker when the vehicle is parked or in motion,” NHTSA says in documents posted on its website. “While Boombox and the pedestrian alert sound are mutually exclusive sounds,

sounds emitted using Boombox could be construed to obscure or prevent the PWS from complying” with safety standards, the agency wrote.

The recall covers certain 2020 through 2022 Tesla Model X, S, and Y vehicles, as well as 2017 through 2022 Model 3s, according to records.

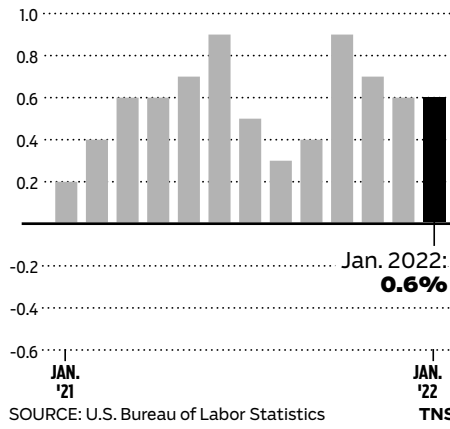
A message was left Thursday seeking comment from Tesla, which has disbanded its media relations department. The company is not aware of any crashes or injuries due to the problem, NHTSA said.

Tesla enabled Boombox with a software update in December of 2020, NHTSA said in documents. NHTSA said that in 2010, Congress required electric and hybrid vehicles to make pedestrian warning noises.

Consumer Price Index

In January, the consumer price index increased 0.6 percent.

CPI ONE-MONTH PERCENT CHANGE
Seasonally adjusted



BUSINESS



The Samsung Galaxy S22 Ultra, featuring the “S Pen,” is one of three new models designed to appeal to users who share videos. The Ultra goes on sale Feb. 25 for \$1,200. **HAVEN DALEY/AP**

Samsung’s new phone lineup aimed at those sharing videos

By Michael Liedtke
Associated Press

SAN RAMON, Calif. — Samsung is trying to reclaim lost ground in the coveted high end of the smartphone market with a new lineup of Galaxy S models designed to appeal to consumers who are increasingly sharing videos of their antics on TikTok, Facebook, YouTube and other popular apps.

Although the Galaxy S22 phones unveiled Wednesday feature some improvements from last year’s models, the differences aren’t dramatic. Samsung is emphasizing new features on the phones that are supposed to produce more vibrant and more stable videos.

One of most noticeable changes is the addition of a built-in pen to take digital notes and draw on the screen of the Ultra model that will cost \$1,200. That “S Pen” had to be purchased separately for \$40 on last-year’s model, which didn’t include a slot to hold it when not in use. The standard Galaxy S22, priced at \$800, and the Galaxy S22 Plus, priced at \$1,000,

don’t include the S Pen, which was popularized on its Note line of phones that were made more for getting work done than for leisure and entertainment.

All three of the Galaxy S22 models — available in stores Feb. 25 — are supposed to have longer battery life and better cameras, particularly for pictures taken in dark lighting and for videos that Samsung estimates now account for about 80% of internet usage.

The camera improvements largely rely on advances in artificial intelligence technology, so the success of the Galaxy S22 models may hinge on how well Samsung’s marketing campaigns can illustrate how the changes will enrich people’s lives, said Forrester analyst Thomas Husson.

Almost imperceptible improvements have become all too familiar across all major smartphone manufacturers since 2015, and are unlikely to spur consumers to shell out anywhere from \$800 to \$1,200 to buy a new one, unless their old device is wearing out, said International Data Corp. analyst

Nabila Popal.

“These are fabulous devices,” Popal said of the Galaxy S22 phones, “but they lack a ‘wow’ factor.”

Samsung doesn’t share that view and is promoting its Galaxy line-up as an “epic standard” for the entire industry.

But Samsung’s most expensive phones have been losing some of their luster recently, even as its cheaper models continue to sell extremely well.

In the premium category consisting of smartphones priced at \$800 and above, though, Samsung’s global market share has shrunk from 28% in 2019 to 18% through the first nine months of 2021, according to IDC’s calculations. Meanwhile, Apple’s share of that lucrative segment, has climbed from 63% to 72% during the same period, based on IDC’s figures.

The latest iPhones introduced last September have proven so popular that Apple supplanted Samsung as the worldwide leader in total market share across all price categories during the October-December period, according to IDC.

Cities’ cryptocurrency push is drawing both fans and foes

By Thalia Beaty
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A small group of cryptocurrency enthusiasts has an offer that they’re hoping U.S. cities can’t refuse.

The group City Coins is asking Miami and New York to accept the equivalent of millions of dollars in a new cryptocurrency, and at least some of the money is real: Last week, Miami Mayor Francis Suarez announced that City Coins had transferred \$5.25 million to the city.

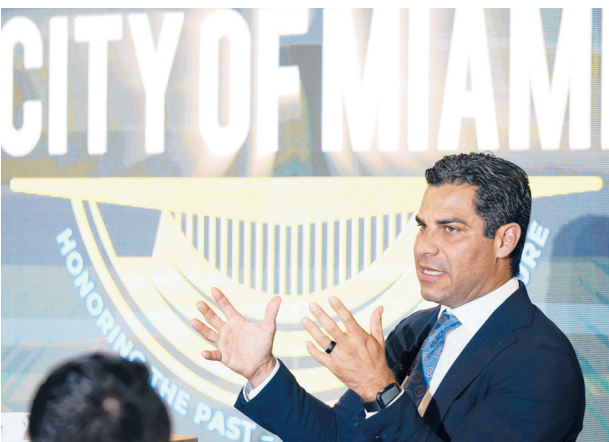
The proposal has leaders in other cities, like Philadelphia and Dearborn, Michigan, clamoring to get in on a deal they hope might patch budgets, similar to how some cities and states had hoped lotteries or legalized gambling would be a solution to financial problems.

That hype also benefits people who get in early on the new currencies, which is part of what fuels arguments that cryptocurrency startups too closely resemble pyramid schemes.

When Suarez announced in November that his city would partner with the group, one of its leaders, Patrick Stanley, told news outlet and cryptocurrency price index company CoinDesk TV that Suarez “just turned his city into an oil-producing country that gives Bitcoin yield to its citizens, like that is incredible.”

That hasn’t happened and there are a lot of hurdles to clear, both legal and technological, before it could.

The value of cryptocurrencies can fluctuate dramatically. The popular cryptocurrency Bitcoin lost close to half its value between November and the end of January, falling from a peak of \$67,500 to just above \$35,000; it has since bounced back a bit to around \$45,000. The anonymity of cryptocurrencies also makes



Miami Mayor Francis Suarez announced a digital currency group transferred money to the city. **LYNNE SLADKY/AP 2021**

them popular with criminals and scams are plentiful.

The group’s proposal expands on the blockchain technology that supports Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies. People who want to support the city of Miami can invest in Miami Coin (as can anyone else); part of their investment is then funneled to the city. The rest is divided up among other investors in Miami Coin. The way the system is designed favors people who make bigger investments and those who get in early.

If it goes according to plan, prices of the new cryptocurrency go up and the city gets free money.

The proposed arrangement is unusual from an economic development perspective as well, in part because City Coins says it is a kind of collective. Its website does not list any employees or contact information besides a link to the messaging app Discord. It is registered in Delaware as a nonprofit organization. Online records show it is not registered in Florida.

In a statement, Suarez said the city cannot legally hold cryptocurrencies. So for now, he said, “City Coins acts as a custodian of Miami’s rewards until they are converted into dollars

and formally gifted to the city,” which the first \$5.25 million was on Feb. 2.

To John Forrer, a research professor at George Washington’s public policy school, the unprecedented arrangement presents potential pitfalls.

“There is so much uncertainty and it’s so brand new, are you sure you’ve investigated all of the risks and that you have a way of handling them whatever they are?” he said, adding it’s important the city can hold the outside party accountable.

In the contract City Coins signed with the Miami, Stanley is listed as the point of contact with an address at a Los Angeles strip mall. He has appeared alongside Suarez in interviews about Miami Coin where he is identified as the community lead for City Coins. He did not reply to questions about the structure and organization of City Coins. In public statements, Stanley has said he formerly worked with Stacks, the cryptocurrency ecosystem that City Coins is built on.

While New York Mayor Eric Adams has also been a cryptocurrency booster, his administration has not yet signed on to the project, despite celebrating the launch of a New York City Coin in November.

MARKET RUNDOWN

Friday, February 11, 2022

DOWN
35,241.59 -526.47

10-YR T-BOND
2.03% +.10

GOLD
\$1,836.20 +1.00

Dow Jones Industrials
Close: 35,241.59
Change: -526.47 (-1.5%)

Commodities			
	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
FUELS			
Crude Oil (bbl)	89.88	89.66	+19.51%
Natural Gas (mm btu)	3.96	4.01	+6.14%
Unleaded Gas (gal)	2.67	2.65	+19.62%
METALS			
Gold (oz)	1,836.20	1,835.20	+ .48%
Silver (oz)	23.52	23.34	+ .82%

(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)

Foreign Exchange			
	ForEx in U.S.	U.S. \$ in ForEx	
Britain	1.3574	.7367	
Canada	.7865	1.2714	
China	.1574	6.3541	
Euro	1.1450	.8734	
Japan	.008627	115.92	
Mexico	.048728	20.5221	

Money Rates			
	CLOSE	PREV.	WK.
Prime rate	3.25	3.25	
3-mo. T-Bill	0.41	0.21	
6-mo. T-Bill	0.75	0.48	
5-yr T-Note	1.96	1.66	
10-yr T-Note	2.03	1.82	
30-yr T-Bond	2.31	2.14	

Global Markets			
	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG. %YTD
Frankfurt	15,490.44	+8.43	+0.05% -2.48%
London	7,672.40	+28.98	+3.89% +3.90%
Hong Kong	24,924.35	+94.36	+3.89% +6.52%
Nikkei	27,696.08	+116.21	+4.22% -3.81%

Domestic Indexes			
	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD
DOW Indus.	35,241.59	-526.47	-3.02%
DOW Trans.	15,390.70	-267.20	-6.60%
DOW Util.	924.05	-24.98	-5.78%
NYSE Comp.	16,855.96	-213.70	-1.80%
Nasdaq Comp.	14,185.64	-304.73	-9.33%
S&P 500	4,504.08	-83.10	-5.50%
S&P 400	2,681.78	-39.76	-5.64%
Wilshire 5000	45,518.22	-799.20	-6.07%
Russell 2000	2,051.16	-32.34	-8.65%

Stocks of Local Interest									
STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	YTD	STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	YTD
AMC Entertainment A (AMC)	18.59	-.35	-31.7		Micron Tech (MU)	91.02	+2.90	-2.3	
AT&T Inc (T)	24.25	-.25	-1.4		Microsoft Corp (MSFT)	302.38	-8.83	-10.1	
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	125.77	-7.08	-12.6		Norwegian Cruise Ln (NCLH)	22.63	-1.09	+9.1	
Affirm Holdings Inc (AFRM)	58.68	-16.00	-41.6		Novartis AG (NVS)	85.83	-1.37	-1.9	
American Airlines Gp (AAL)	18.71	-.05	+4.2		Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)	258.24	-8.81	-12.2	
American Rebel Hldgs (AREB)	3.07	+.92	+38.9		Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)	81.55	-2.22	-6.3	
Amphenol Corp (APH)	77.60	-2.39	-11.3		PG&E Corp (PCG)	11.39	-.91	-6.2	
Apple Inc (AAPL)	172.12	-4.16	-3.1		Palantir Technol (PLTR)	13.56	-.31	-25.5	
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	44.62	-1.18	-10.5		Peloton Interactive (PTON)	37.46	-1.31	+4.8	
Bakkt Holdings Inc (BKKT)	7.38	-.24	-13.3		Peoples Utd Fncl (PBCT)	21.06	+.06	+18.2	
Bank of America (BAC)	49.05	-.23	+10.2		Pfizer Inc (PFE)	50.60	-.87	-14.3	
Barnes Group (B)	45.25	-.87	-2.9		Pitney Bowes (PBI)	4.94	-.16	-25.5	
Booking Holdings (BKNG)	2628.38	+1.40	+9.6		Prudential Fncl (PRU)	121.38	+.19	+12.1	
Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	66.51	-.63	+6.7		Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	65.85	-1.58	-1.3	
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	105.32	+.53	+2.1		Raytheon Technol (RTX)	95.06	-.94	+10.5	
Carnival Corp (CCL)	23.12	-.07	+14.9		Rogers Corp (ROG)	272.80	-.07	-1.1	
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)	47.15	-.83	-13.1		SS&C Technologies (SSNC)	80.49	-1.93	-1.8	
Charter Commun (CHTR)	606.52	-8.23	-7.0		Sirius XM Hldgs Inc (SIRI)	6.33	-.51	-3.3	
Cigna Corp (CI)	230.27	-2.11	+3.3		Snap Inc A (SNAP)	40.62	+.34	-13.6	
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	48.92	-.85	-2.8		SoFi Technologies (SOFI)	12.39	-.47	-21.6	
DiDi Global Inc (DIDI)	4.31	+.35	-13.5		Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)	164.62	-4.36	-12.7	
Disney (DIS)	152.16	+4.93	-1.8		Starwood Prop Trust (STWD)	24.51	-.38	+9.3	
EMCOR Group Inc (EME)	115.36	-1.85	-9.4		Sundial Growers Inc (SNL)	.56	-.01	-3.3	
Ethan Allen (ETD)	25.35	-.27	-3.6		Terex Corp (TEX)	43.88	-.27	-2.2	
Eversource Energy (ES)	84.69	-2.67	-6.9		Tilray Brands Inc (TLRY)	7.00	+.08	-.4	
Exela Technologies (XELA)	.75	-.07	-14.6		Tonix Pharma (TNXP)	.22	+.00	-38.5	
Ford Motor (F)	18.08	-.27	-13.0		Travelers Cos (TRV)	172.43	-.30	+10.2	
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	4.82	+.01	-7.3		Twitter Inc (TWTR)	37.08	-.75	-14.2	
Gen Dynamics (GD)	211.52	-3.92	+1.5		2U Inc (TWOU)	9.38	-8.60	-53.3	
Gen Electric (GE)	98.79	-.46	+4.6		Uber Technologies (UBER)	37.75	-2.44	-10.0	
Grab Holdings Ltd A (GRAB)	6.35	+.80	-10.9		United Rentals (URI)	325.68	-8.51	-2.0	
Hartford Fn Sv (HIG)	72.96	-.06	+5.7		UnitedHealth Group (UNH)	486.72	-11.38	-3.1	
Honeywell Intl (HON)	191.75	-4.87	-8.0		Virtus Invest (VRTS)	258.88	-11.13	-12.9	
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	15.81	+.05	-.7		Voya Financial (VOYA)	72.41	+1.14	+9.2	
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	22.94	-.47	-9.4		Webster Financial (WBS)	62.00	+.32	+11.0	
Intel Corp (INTC)	48.86	-1.05	-5.1		Wells Fargo & Co (WFC)	59.05	-.01	+23.1	
IronNet Inc (IRNT)	4.32	+.81	+2.9		White Mtns Insur (WTM)	1051.64	-3.46	+3.7	
Kaman (KAMN)	40.64	-.38	-5.8		World Wrestling Ent (WWE)	55.33	+.36	+12.1	
Keycorp (KEY)	26.55	-.15	+14.8		XPO Logistics Inc (XPO)	68.74	-.94	-11.2	
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	74.39	+.76	+9.0		Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX)	21.40	-.08	-5.5	
Lumen Technologies (LUMN)	10.83	-1.99	-13.7		Zosano Pharma Corp (ZSAN)	.23	-.01	-50.6	
MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	47.07	-1.45	+4.9		Zynga Inc (ZNGA)	9.17	...	+43.3	
Meta Platforms Inc (FB)	228.07	-3.93	-32.2						
Meten Holding Group (METX)	.23	+.04	-9.6						
MetLife Inc (MET)	70.50	+.08	+12.8						

LOCAL *Equals* FRESH

SINCE 1923

LOCAL *Equals* FRESH

GEISSLER'S
SUPERMARKET

Weekend Specials

February 11-13, 2022 | While supplies last

Fresh Local
Blueberries

Pint

3\$10
FOR

Fresh Live 1-1.5lbs.
Lobsters

Other sizes available
1.5-lbs. \$17.99
2-lbs. \$19.99
*all orders upon request

\$15⁹⁹
LB.

Fresh Hass
Avocado

3\$5

Fresh Grey
Sole

\$12⁹⁹
LB.

Counter Weight
Headway

4-pack 16fl.oz.
Tax & Deposit
where applicable
Not available in MA

\$9⁹⁹-29⁹⁹
Reserve Online @geisslers.com

Fresh A+
Swordfish

\$16⁹⁹
LB.

Fresh Hand Dipped
Chocolate Covered
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Helen Bennett
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OPINION

COURANT.COM/OPINION

Let's all sweat over student debt



Gail Collins

Perhaps you're wondering whatever happened to Joe Biden's plan to reduce student loan debt.

No? That's sort of depressing. You've given up on Washington ever making even the tiniest twitch of progress? Hey, I'd like to point out that right now in Congress, both parties are working on legislation to keep the government in operation. And they've named a post office in Wayzata, Minnesota. Hope springs eternal.

And let's be fair. Think about passage of Biden's big infrastructure bill. A heart-warming reminder that even in the darkest of times, our legislators in Washington are up for highway repair. So bipartisan it got a total of 32 Republican votes.

But about student loan forgiveness: It was one of our president's major non-road-reconstruction campaign promises. Voters were undoubtedly listening, given that Americans owe a grand total of about \$1.5 trillion in student debt.

"Whenever I go to community meetings, it always comes up," said Chuck Schumer, the Senate majority leader. "Young and

middle-aged and even some elderly. It tortures them."

Right now, as with almost everything else in life, we're in a pause. Federal loans account for more than 90% of the student loan debt, and thanks to Biden, the next payment deadline has been pushed back to May 1. That saved you — well, the cosmic you — \$5 billion a month in interest alone.

Unfortunately, Biden has claimed that doing anything permanent, like his much-repeated campaign promise to cancel significant amounts of debt, requires legislation. Not everybody agrees. "The president can do this with a flick of his pen," Schumer said.

That'd certainly be easier. Getting the Senate to approve anything is a problem for lawmakers whose post offices already have names. Even optimistic folks — presuming there are any left in Washington — had to be disheartened this week when Jill Biden admitted that free community college, her own signature initiative, is down the drain.

At least temporarily. Think positive — you never know. The Democrats might sweep the fall elections. Mitch McConnell might have a spectacular conversion in which an angel appears and tells him to forgo the filibuster. (Maybe an angel who's \$350,000 in hock to Seraphim Graduate School for Wing Development.)

Meanwhile, opponents of student debt forgiveness are sitting tight. Some House

Republicans called it "an affront to the millions of borrowers who responsibly repaid their loan balances." Others argue that the whole point of the loans is to prepare people for better-paying careers, which would make it easy to meet the payments. Hey, maybe Congress could just restrict the loan forgiveness to folks who aren't making much money. Nah. Republicans really, really hate bills that are targeted at folks who aren't making much money. I'm sorry, Mr. President. These are federal loans, and you definitely gave the impression you could wipe them off the books yourself. If you weren't sure the public wanted it to happen, you wouldn't have mentioned the idea approximately every five minutes during the campaign.

But while we're on the subject, let's look at another part of the loan problem — who's getting the money. About 12% of the graduates of public four-year schools still owe more than \$40,000. The percentage is somewhat higher for private schools, but the real whopper is over in the for-profit sector. Nearly half of the graduates of for-profit schools are trying to live with very high debt levels, and we have not even begun to talk about the multitudinous number of poor kids who got sucked in by an ad promising to set them on a career in high-tech-something and wound up with no degree, no career and a sea of red ink.

It's glory days for the folks who run

places like Grand Canyon University or Strayer University. For-profits are revealing in the COVID-19 culture. "I hate to call anybody a winner in this crisis," said Jeffrey Silber, managing director of a financial services company. But, he added, for-profit colleges sure appear to be getting a pandemic prize.

People are trapped at home, with nothing to do but clean out closets and watch huge races. Starting on the path to an online degree and a new career must certainly sound tempting. No, wait. Really, stick to the curling match. For-profit schools are generally a very bad plan. An estimated 43% of the students who started attending one in 2004 defaulted on their loans.

While the for-profits are very vocal about enrollees' prospects, they tend to be less than forthcoming about their actual success rates. For instance, Capella University has run ads promising you can earn a bachelor's degree in as little as a year. Alas, in the real world only 11% of its students manage to earn one in eight.

And by the way, around two-thirds of the people who graduate from regular community colleges leave without any debt. The figure at for-profit schools, at the most optimistic assessment, is around 17%. Come back, Jill Biden!

Collins is a columnist for The New York Times.

Trump's failure to build wall is his own

By Ramesh Ponnuru
Bloomberg Opinion

While the world waits and waits to see whether Donald Trump will seek the presidency again, it is worth looking back at one of the enduring puzzles of his time in office: why he failed to achieve some of his key goals on immigration even when the opportunity to win seemed to be handed to him.

Immigration was central to his rise. During the 2016 primaries, Republican voters who said it was their top issue were among his biggest supporters. A wall on the U.S. border with Mexico was his most famous policy objective. Yet he got only 47 miles of the border walled off during his term.

Even though he was elected alongside Republican majorities in the House and Senate, he did not make funding for the wall a legislative priority. And he kicked away his best chance at a bipartisan deal to pay for it.

In February 2018, while Republicans still had a slim Senate majority, seven Democratic senators offered to provide \$25 billion in funding for a wall. In return Republicans were to grant legal status to millions of undocumented immigrants who came to the U.S. as minors. As Trump had also been saying he wanted them to have legal status, this idea had the makings of a double win for him. He could deliver for his base and soften his image at the same time. He said the month before that he would sign any deal Congress sent him.

But then the president switched course. He said he would veto any bill that didn't meet four conditions. In addition to wall funding and a targeted legalization, he wanted Congress to end chain migration and the diversity lottery, two categories of legal immigration. (Chain migration refers to the process by which extended families of immigrants resettle here, and the lottery



Former President Donald Trump and Texas Gov. Greg Abbott in front of an unfinished section of border wall in Pharr, Texas. ERIC GAY/AP 2021

distributes visas in an effort to diversify the immigrant population.)

Trump had endorsed a bill to enact those reductions a few months earlier, but never insisted on them as conditions for a deal. Cuts to legal immigration that he hadn't even campaigned on turned out to be deal breakers. A day after his statement, the Senate voted down those cuts 60-39, with 14 Republicans opposed. The political conditions for a deal then disappeared, never to return. (In February 2018, Democrats were coming off a failed attempt to use a partial government shutdown to force Republicans to move ahead with legalization. They would not be so defensive again later in Trump's presidency. A few months later, Trump implemented a family-separation policy that hardened Democratic resistance to making a deal with him on immigration. And in November, Republicans lost control of the House.)

A year later, Trump backflipped again. In his State of the Union address in 2019, he said he wanted higher levels of immigration: "I want people to come into our country in the largest numbers ever, but they have to come in legally." He didn't follow through with any concrete proposal, but he reiterated this desire on multiple occasions. The upshot: Trump had thrown

away the chance to deliver on his promise to build the border wall, and he had done it in the name of immigration cuts to which he had no real commitment.

This seemingly self-defeating behavior was all a matter of public record in real time. But I hadn't seen Trump's explanation for it until I got to the last few pages of "Border Wars," a book about his immigration policies that New York Times reporters Julie Hirschfeld Davis and Michael Shear published in late 2019.

Trump gave the reporters a 35-minute interview in June of that year. He told them the country needed more immigrants, and they brought up his earlier endorsement of major reductions in immigration. The reaction? "I disagreed with that aspect of it," Trump told us, almost as an aside.

That aspect of it? The senators who introduced the bill Trump endorsed — the one to end the diversity lottery and chain migration — had explained from the beginning that cutting immigration was the point. Their initial press release promised "a 50 percent reduction" from recent levels. Trump's White House included that reduction in its list of selling points for the bill — while complaining that current levels were "adding more than the population of San Francisco to the country every year."

The cuts were, again, the main obstacle to a deal. Trump had said that funding a border wall and legalizing immigrants who came here illegally as minors were not enough for him; he would veto any immigration legislation that left chain migration and the diversity lottery in place. (In principle, other categories of immigration could have been increased to make up for those reductions, but Trump never called for any such thing when he endorsed those changes, as he easily could have done.)

The mystery remains. Had Trump changed his mind about legal immigration levels, and then forgotten about it or lied when he talked to the reporters? Was he actually in the dark — maybe kept there by his advisers — about the meaning of the legislation he had put his administration behind? Did he not realize he was putting his own declared priorities — primarily a border wall — at risk in the name of something he didn't even favor? Did he care? We may never know; Trump may never know either. One thing we can conclude from the former president's immigration record: If you don't know what you want, you probably won't get it.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Congress may rescue the US Postal Service from itself

By Timothy L. O'Brien
Bloomberg Opinion

The U.S. Postal Service is dysfunctional, timeworn, and hemorrhages billions of dollars a year. It's also an essential operation that still knits communities together and helps major private carriers get their packages to doorsteps.

So it's wonderful that a bipartisan coalition in the House of Representatives finally mustered the will Tuesday evening to pass a bill that gives the Postal Service a fighting chance. Politicians have warned that the post office was in danger of running out of money in two years without an overhaul.

The Postal Service Reform Act aims to do just that, by ending a budget oddity that had hamstringed the service for more than a decade. It also rationalizes how the post office handles its employees' health benefits, mandates greater transparency and oversight around its bookkeeping, and opens the door to modernization and innovation. A companion bill is expected to get bipartisan backing in the Senate and the White House has signaled its support. Change is afoot.

The Postal Service has been a political

football over the last two years, buffeted by concerns that Postmaster General Louis DeJoy, appointed by the Postal Service's board during former President Donald Trump's term, was undermining operations to give his benefactor an advantage in the 2020 presidential election. The post office's financial and strategic challenges have also been repeatedly misdiagnosed, by Trump and others, leaving little hope that its problems could be solved.

The Postal Service offered Congress a reminder of its dire condition this week when it released results for its fiscal first quarter. It reported a net loss of about \$1.5 billion, compared to net income of \$318 million in the same quarter a year ago. Revenue fell \$202 million to \$21.3 billion, which the post office attributed to waning e-commerce deliveries that had surged during the COVID-19 lockdowns. Lower mail volumes and higher costs also weighed on results.

No enterprise can survive that kind of routine financial bleeding, but it's also worth remembering that the Postal Service isn't a business. It's a public service, and the Constitution identifies it as such. Like the military, public schools, police, fire-

fighters, and the national intelligence and diplomatic corps, it hasn't used traditional private-sector accounting. (The post office's deficits also pale in comparison to federal agencies like the Pentagon, for example, which rings up tens of trillions of dollars in annual "accounting adjustments.")

Trump regularly cited losses on package deliveries as the culprit eating away at the Postal Service's profits, but the package business had given the post office a nice revenue boost. Mail delivery, the service's true lifeblood, has been unspooled by email and other technological changes and has been slumping for years.

A big chunk of the Postal Service's losses, about \$46.7 billion for the fiscal years 2014 through 2021, were also due to a congressional mandate requiring it to prefund future retiree health benefits for its employees — which many other public and private entities don't have to follow. The prefunding requirement also accounts for \$152.8 billion of the service's \$206.4 billion in liabilities. The House's legislation does away with that requirement, and also forgives about \$57 billion of the liabilities associated with it. The bill's sponsors also

said the accounting change, and a requirement that the service's retirees enroll in Medicare, will save the post office another \$50 billion over the next decade.

The House bill requires the post office to provide easily searchable delivery data that consumers can use to track mail and packages, and mandates the service to continue delivering mail at least six days a week — whether it's an election year or not.

There are other changes the Postal Service should also consider pursuing, beyond what the House bill envisions. It could encourage the sprawling retail network of post offices to offer more diverse services and become more entrepreneurial. Raising the price of postage stamps would also help its finances, but an independent commission sets those prices, not the Postal Service.

Still, the House bill goes a long way toward refashioning the Postal Service and gives it the financial relief it needs to be creative — and, hopefully, profitable. The Senate should follow suit as quickly as possible.

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06053 Phone# (860)215-8838

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36 Elizabeth Rose Giove Hsld gds/furn
849 Antwaine Bailey Hsld gds/furn.tv/
stereo equip
913 Jackie Bechard Hsld gds/furn
674 Michelle Bernadette Normandy Hsld
gds/furn
1019 Michelle Bernadette Normandy Hsld
gds/furn
975 Michelle Bernadette Normandy Hsld
gds/furn
592 Jorge Mercado Hsld gds/furn
145 Jessica Deleon Clothes
And, due notice having been given, to the
owner of said property and all parties known
to claim an interest therein, and the time
specified in such notice for payment of such
having expired, the goods will be sold to the
highest bidder or otherwise disposed of at
a public auction to be held online at www.StorageTreasures.com, which will end on
Monday February, 28 2022 at 10am
Any questions regarding the above infor-
mation are to be addressed to the manager
of this facility at the phone number shown
above.
2/10, 2/11/2022 7147735

**Development Coordinator for Parkville
Neighborhood Projects
Hartford, Connecticut**

The Capital Region Development Authority
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State of Connecticut, is seeking a qualified
contractor to serve as a development project
coordinator in the Parkville neighborhood.
Please see full posting and submission
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content/uploads/2022/01/1-27-2022-De-
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1/28, 2/13/2022 7138105

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packages may be downloaded at: [https://
wethersfield.ct.gov/finance/open-bids](https://wethersfield.ct.gov/finance/open-bids)

Proposals will be received until
2:00 p.m. local time on February 24, 2022.
2/11/2022 7148427

Hartford

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the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner and/or manager's lien of the goods hereinafter
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F92	Jessica Pappas	Hsld gds/Furn
C14	Angelo Dimauro	Hsld gds/Furn
G106	Rita O'Connor	Hsld gds/Furn
H123	Efrain Flores	Hsld gds/Furn
C17	Rachel Kilman	Hsld gds/Furn Tools/Applines
D11	Noelia Ortiz	Hsld gds/Furn walk in refrigerator unit doors and walls
A58	Wendy M Terra	Hsld gds/Furn TV/Stereo Equip Tools/Applines

And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim
an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired,
the goods will be sold to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of at a public auction to be
held online at www.StorageTreasures.com, which will end on
Monday 2/28/22 at 10:00 AM

Any questions regarding the above information are to be addressed to the manager of this
facility at the phone number shown above.
2/9 & 2/11/22 7146354



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Issued On: Tuesday February 1, 2022
Bid Due: Friday, February 28, 2022 at 10:00
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Kent Green Boulevard, PO Box 678, Kent, CT
06757 until 10:00 AM local time on Monday,
February 28, 2022, at which time and place,
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Please go to Town of Kent website for
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305 ; Household Goods, Ramires, Selene
418 misc. Household Items Rosa, James
132 misc. Household Items; Storage Rentals
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CT, 06002 McLaughlin, Maxine E252 misc.
Household Items. Junaoh, James C100
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the school district's best interest.
2/11/2022 7145593

Hartford

In the Matter of:
Ronald David Smith, MD
21-CR-0027

On November 12, 2021, the State Medical
Board of Ohio mailed an Order of Indefinite
Suspension to Ronald David Smith, MD via
certified mail, return receipt requested, to
his last known address of record, 574 Willis
Street., Bristol, CT 06010. The Order was
returned to the Board from the postal service
marked "return to sender, unable to forward".
A copy of the Notice is available on the
Board's website at www.eicence.ohio.gov.

Dr. Smith may be entitled to an appeal. Such
an appeal must be commenced by the filing
of a Notice of Appeal with the State Medical
Board and the Franklin County Court of
Common Pleas. The Notice of Appeal must
set forth the Order appealed from and state
that the State Medical Board's Order is not
supported by reliable, probative, and sub-
stantive evidence and is not in accordance
with law. The Notice of Appeal may, but is not
required to, set forth the specific grounds of
the appeal. Any such appeal must be filed
within fifteen (15) days after the last date of
publication in accordance with the require-
ments of Section 119.12, Ohio Revised
Code. Please contact the undersigned to
ascertain the last date of publication.

Any questions or correspondence should be
addressed to:

Jackie Moore
Case Control Office
30 E. Broad Street, 3rd Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6127
Jackie.moore@med.ohio.gov
2/11, 2/18 & 2/25/22 7148433



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Bristol Tobie L. Racine David R. Wurzinger	Plainville Wendell W. Copeland Tobie L. Racine
Colchester Douglas Bareis	Storrs Nancy Clark
Enfield John P. Borski Sharon Fontana	Tolland William Gregonis Jaqueline Morosani
Farmington Sandra Wolf	Unionville Sandra Wolf
Middletown Sarah L. Bond	Waterbury David R. Wurzinger
New Britain Concetta Lopes Elizabeth Nadeau	West Hartford Gary Sigal
	Windsor Geraldine R. Johnson


* Denotes name listing only.
Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES




Bond, Sarah L.

Sarah L. “Doll” Bond, 78, of Middletown, CT, beloved wife to the late Norman Bond Jr. for fifty years, passed away on Monday, February 7, 2022. Born on June 12th, 1944, in Windsor, North Carolina, she was the daughter of the late William Watson and Sarah Louise (Brockers) Morris. As a teenager, she loved to work on the farm and chase snakes with her brother LeRoy. Sarah was employed at Chesebrough-Pond’s then Portland Convalescent Home for many years until she retired. She was a devoted wife and loving mother who adored her children and would do anything for them. She is survived by five sons, Ervin L. (Donette) Bond , Gregory (Elaine) Bond, Lorenzo (Nadine) Bond, Trenton T. (Caprice) Bond and Norman S. (Jeanette) Bond, all of Middletown, CT; one daughter Tisha M. (Sammy) Bond of Willimantic, CT and a grandson/son Tyshawn Bond of Middletown, CT; two brothers, Jasper and LeRoy Morris both of Windsor, NC, two sisters Nancy Robbins of Brooklyn, New York and Annie (Blay) Wilson of Windsor, NC; 20 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great-grandchild, a host of nieces and nephews and special friends: Rosebud Hayes, Maggie Cockrell, Catherine Jones, Laurie Baisden, Willie Ann Bond, Willie Mae Speller, and Clarence Gaskins. She was predeceased by her two brothers Joseph Oliver Morris of Windsor, NC and Jimmie Morris of Middletown, CT. Funeral services will be held on Monday, February 14th at 11:00 am at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 346 Butternut Street, Middletown. Burial will follow in Pine Grove Cemetery. Family and friends may call at the church Monday morning from 10:00 to 11:00 am. To share memories or send condolences to the family, please visit www.doolittlefuneralservice.com.
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Gregonis, William

William Gregonis, beloved husband of Jane, and devoted father of Sarah, passed away peacefully at home on January 30, 2022, while holding their hands. He was a courageous and valiant warrior who had fought through illness for many years.....a very special "miracle man". Bill was a kind, generous, and loving husband, father, and grandfather. He will be dearly missed by his family and friends. Bill was born in Minersville, PA, on July 19, 1937 to Charles and Mary (Prebula) Gregonis. The family moved to Connecticut in 1943. Bill was educated in the South Windsor school system, and received a BS from ECSU, an MS from CCSU, and a sixth year certificate from UConn. He was a talented, respected, and dedicated educator, who worked in Vernon and East Windsor for 35 years as a teacher and an administrator. Throughout his career in education, Bill enjoyed teaching many levels of students, as well as spending several years in administration. In all phases of his profession, he was a strong and vocal advocate for his students, and was loved and admired by so many of them, as well as by his colleagues. Social studies and history, the subjects that Bill taught, led him to enjoy traveling in the United States and Europe whenever possible. He and Jane spent many summers traveling throughout our country with their daughter, and experiencing adventures that were always some of the happiest of memories for Bill and his family. He also loved spending time in Westerly, RI, at their summer cottage that became the family’s “happy place”. All of these memories will be treasured. The Tolland County 4H Program was a source of fulfillment for Bill. He was a volunteer for many years, and participated in fairs and activities with his daughter. Sarah. He was also on the board of the Teen Connection Conference at UConn for several years. Bill was very fortunate to have been able to joyfully welcome his four grandchildren into the world in 2011 and 2013, twin boys and twin girls. He adored them, and spent quality time reading to them, playing with them, and imparting his own special kind of love and wisdom to them unconditionally. The children adored him in return. Bill leaves his loving wife, soul mate, and best friend, Jane (Gnutti) Gregonis, his cherished daughter, Sarah Wall and her husband Ryan, and his four very special grandchildren, Jack, Liam, Lillian, and Mallory Wall, all of Whitman, MA. He also leaves his brothers, John Gregonis and his wife Elaine, Charles Gregonis and his wife Christine, his sister Mary Jane Butler, brother-in-law Walter Abbe, and sister-in-law, Suzanne Willard, as well as many nieces, nephews, and friends. Bill was predeceased by his sisters Dorothy Carney and Elizabeth Abbe, and his brothers-in-law Francis Carney and Gary Butler. Arrangements will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, Sandy Hook Promise, or a charity of the donor’s choice. Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc., Stafford Springs, CT, has care of the arrangements. To leave a condolence online for the family, please visit: www.introvignefuneralhome.com



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Johnson, Geraldine Ruth (Coseboom)

SERVICE UPDATE
Geraldine Ruth (Coseboom) Johnson, of Windsor, passed away on December 6, 2021. Calling hours will be held on Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Carmon Funeral Home, 807 Bloomfield Ave., Windsor, CT. A Memorial Service will immediately follow. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made in Geraldine’s memory to the Make a Wish Foundation. For online expressions of sympathy please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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OBITUARIES




Clark, Nancy

Nancy Burke Clark, 73, of Storrs, CT passed away on February 7, 2022. She graduated from South Windsor High School in 1966, and worked as a secretary at The Aetna. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, John Clark, her parents, Edward and Julia Burke, and her brother, Tom Burke. She leaves to mourn her passing, her son, Kenneth Chitjian, her daughter, Kimberly Boynton, grandchildren, Dylan, Cayden, and Julie, her brother, Richard Burke, and her sister, Francine Burke. Nancy was a sweet soul, who enjoyed the simplicities of life, such as watching the women’s UConn Basketball games and the amazing Boston Red Sox games; bowling, her swimming pool, her garden, and home cooking and canning in her kitchen. Nancy will be sorely missed and forever loved by her remaining family members. Her funeral service will be held on Monday, February 14, 2022 at 10:00am at Potter Funeral Home, 456 Jackson St. Willimantic. Burial will follow at the Mansfield Center Cemetery. For an online memorial guestbook please visit www.potterfuneralhome.com
Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries




Lopes, Concetta (Masciotra)

Concetta “Irene” (Masciotra) Lopes, 98, of New Britain, widow of Anthony Lopes, passed away Thursday February 3, 2022 at Touchpoints of Bloomfield. Born in New Britain she was a longtime resident, before moving to Tolland in 2015. Irene was a graduate of New Britain High School, class of 1941, where she was a member of the National Honor Society. She worked in the billing department at Fafnir Bearing Company until her retirement and was a member of St. Francis of Assisi Church in New Britain. Although she went by Irene, everyone in the family called her Nonny. Nonny loved to cook and enjoyed getting the whole family together for holiday celebrations. While residing at Brookdale in South Windsor and Touchpoints in Bloomfield, she attended Mass and Rosary Services whenever possible. Surviving are three sons, Anthony Lopes and his wife Kathy of Little River, SC, John Lopes and his wife Lynn of Anthem, AZ, and Thomas Lopes and his wife Ann of Avon; nine grandchildren; nine great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. A private Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Francis of Assisi Church at the convenience of the family and burial will be in St. Mary Cemetery. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain is assisting the family with arrangements. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com



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Sigal, Gary

Gary Robert Sigal, 64, of Newington and formerly a long-time resident of Bloomfield, died February 9, 2022 after a courageous health battle. Gary has been serving as the President of Congregation Agudas Achim in West Hartford, a position he has held for many years and which his father held as an original founder of the Congregation. Born in Hartford, he was the son of the late Norman and Irene (Kagan) Sigal. Gary was a graduate of Bloomfield High School, 1976, and received an Associate’s Degree from TUNXIS Community College. He was a lifetime member of Congregation Agudas Achim starting at its Harford location and then onto the West Hartford location on North Main Street. He was always very active in his synagogue, serving as an officer and being integral to organizing synagogue services and assisting with ritual and rabbinical coordination. During his early time at Agudas, he became a Bar-Mitzvah and graduated from its religious school under the Rabbinical training from the late Rabbi Abraham Avrutick, Z”L. Gary proudly held the position of President of his synagogue until his death. He had significant responsibility for the operations of the Agudas Achim building and the cemeteries at Zion Hill and Tower Avenue. Early in Gary’s life he had a passion for playing golf. He loved following the Yankees, Giants and Celtics, UCONN and the Boston Bruins. He worked for the Professional Ambulance Company as a manager. He is survived by his brother, Jeffrey S. Sigal and his sister Rhonda Sembrano and her husband Jesse, his niece, Shayna Sembrano, who he loved like a daughter and spoke to her every day, her husband Max Piccola, his other niece, Nicole Lis and her husband John Lis and his nephew, Michael Sigal. He was also survived by his aunt, Iris Kagan and his uncle Kenneth Kleinfeld and cousins, Seth Sigal, Andrew Sigal and his wife Shelley, Jamie and her husband Brock Manville, Susan and her husband David Bazer, Steven Sigal, Cheryl Weinberger, Richard Weinberger, Alan Kleinfeld, Nancy Kleinfeld, Sherri Schwartz, Michelle Rizzo, Marc Kagan and his wife Susan as well as many dear friends. Gary was predeceased by his sister-in-law, Marlene Shotten Sigal. A funeral will be graveside with Rabbi Shlomo Yaffe, former Rabbi of the Agudas Achim and dear friend, officiating on Sunday, February 13 at 10:30AM at the Platerer Verein Cemetery, 1361 Berlin Turnpike, Wethersfield. Gary will be buried alongside his parents. The family will observe a private period of mourning. Donations in his memory may be made to the Platerer Verein Cemetery or to the Young Israel of West Hartford Memorial Fund. May his memory be a source of strength and a blessing. Funeral arrangements provided by Hebrew Funeral Association, Inc, West Hartford.
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Visit the obituary section on courant.com to share memories of loved ones.





Borski, John P.

John P. Borski, 81, of Enfield, beloved husband to Maureen (Cahill) Borski for 55 years, died on Wednesday, February 9, 2022, at home with his family by his side. He was born December 30, 1940, in Springfield, MA to John and Anna (Cieszynski) Borski. He graduated from Enfield High School in 1959. He proudly served in the US Army during the Vietnam War. He was an avid woodworker, making clocks and furniture, enjoyed watching the UCONN Basketball teams and spending time with his family. In his younger years, he spent his free time golfing. Besides his wife, Maureen, he is survived by his daughter; Sheila Gregori and his son; Michael Borski and his wife Heidi; his grandchildren, Chase Gregori, Tanner Gregori, Kaitlyn Borski and Ryan Borski. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his siblings, Charles, Rose and Teresa. Relatives and friends may join the family on Friday, February 11, 2022 from 5 – 7 pm at Leete-Stevens Enfield Chapels, 61 South Rd, Enfield. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 11:00 am at St. Raymond of Penafort Parish- St. Patrick Church, 64 Pearl st, Enfield, Saturday, February 12, 2022 (Please meet at church). Burial will follow at St. Adalbert’s Cemetery, Enfield. For online condolences please visit leetesteevens.com
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Morosani, Jaqueline

Jaqueline “Pixie” (Foster) Morosani, age 79, of Tolland, CT entered eternal life on January 29, 2022. Pixie was born April 30, 1942 in Manhattan, NY to the late Agnes (Sloan) and Bertram Foster. She leaves her husband David Richards. Pixie owned and ran a hot dog stand in Madison and multiple filling stations in the 1970’s with her late former husband Remy Morosani. She then went on to work in the food and beverage industry for several years where she acquired the name Pixie. She then went to work at Lipman Chevrolet and her dedication and hard work earned her “Salesperson of the Year”. This inspired a purchase of a Corvette and before long she was a member of a “Corvette Club”. After her time at Lipman she went on to flourish her own business in marketing and networking. Pixie was truly a people person and always saw the positive in every situation. Pixie was an animal lover from breeding Afghan dogs to adopting rescue animals. She was a member of the Stafford Rotary Club. Besides her husband, she is survived by her son, Reto Morosani; her grandchildren, Tatiana Morosani, Michael Flanagan, Derick Flanagan, Justin Hoffman and Jessica Calamari; five great grandchildren; her brother, Michael Foster; sister, Suzanne Bridge; and several nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. She was predeceased by her parents, Agnes (Sloan) and Bertram Foster; her former husband, Remy R. Morosani XIV; her son Remy R. Morosani XV; her daughters, Elviera Flanagan and Tanya Morosani; her granddaughter, Elizabeth Hoffman; and her sister, Arlene Piatti. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc., Stafford Springs, CT has care of the arrangements. To leave a message of sympathy for the family, please visit: www.introvignefuneralhome.com



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Racine, Tobie Lynn

Tobie Lynn (Grenier) Racine, 57, of Bristol, loving wife, mother and friend, passed away on February 8, 2022 at the Hospital of Central CT in New Britain after a brief illness. She was the devoted wife of Richard “Ric” Racine and together they shared 15 wonderful years of love, laughter, and adventures. Tobie was born on January 13, 1965 in Hartford, CT daughter to Robert and Judith “Judi” (Sullivan) Grenier. She worked at ESPN for more than 20 years, building lasting friendships. Tobie’s willingness to lend a listening ear and offer worthy advice created bonds that went beyond the workplace. She was committed to volunteering and giving back to others, an ESPN Champion and facilitated numerous American Red Cross Blood Drives, herself a proud active donor. She enjoyed relaxing evenings by the fire, a glass of wine in hand and her favorite music playing. Tobie had a spark for life, always up to try new restaurants or take a weekend drive to some of her and Ric’s favorite places. Her travels created memories of vineyards and breweries, trips to Maine, Hawaii and the Caribbean. Her favorite destination was Walt Disney World, and these trips with her children, family and friends were definitely “magical”. Tobie prioritized family, cherishing her time with them, forever leaving an impact on each and every one of their lives. Tobie will forever be remembered for the love and generosity she showed towards those close to her. In addition to her husband, Ric, Tobie is survived by her children, Danielle Reola and her significant other, Franky Tardif, of Plainville, and Richard Reola of Burlington; her mother Judi (Sullivan) Grenier; her sisters, Terri Herman and her husband Paul, Tracey Coyne and her husband Steve, and Tami Giarratana and her husband Rosario; along with several nieces, nephews, and extended family members. She also leaves behind a large circle of friends who will miss her dearly. Family and friends are welcome to gather on Sunday, February 13, 2022 from 2 to 4 PM at the Plainville Funeral Home, 81 Broad St., Plainville. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday, February 14 at 10 AM at Our Lady of Mercy Church, 94 Broad St., Plainville. Burial will be held privately. In lieu of flowers, plants are appreciated, or in memory of Tobie and her generosity for giving to others, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org or the Lung Cancer Foundation of America at https://lcfamerica.org/. For more information or to leave online expressions of sympathy, please visit www.PLAINVILLEFUNERALHOME.com.



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Nadeau, Elizabeth



Betty Nadeau passed away on February 02 after a long battle with cancer. Betty leaves behind her husband Louis, her son William Seraphin, and her daughter Denise Seraphin. Betty also leaves behind her step daughters and their families, Angela, Denise and Tracey. Her sisters, Mary Padgett (Raleigh), Joan Leone, and her brother John Leone (Diane). Betty is also survived by many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews, cousins and friends, especially Gerri O'keefe-Curtis.

Betty was born in Maine to John and Althea Leone. The family moved to Connecticut shortly after she was born. She attended Kensington Grammar School before they moved to New Britain. Betty grew up on the East Side of New Britain where she made many friends. She graduated from New Britain Senior High School. After high school Betty concentrated on raising her family. After raising her family, Betty began working as a server. Betty worked at many local restaurants through the years. She finished her work career in the cafeteria at Stanley Black and Decker Headquarters.

Betty liked NASCAR and taking trips to Maine with Louis. The family would like to thank the wonderful staff on the 5th floor of THOCC New Britain.

As Betty requested there will be no services. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to the American Cancer Society.

To extend condolences to the Nadeau family or to share a memory of Betty please visit shakerfuneralhome.com.


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Wolf, Sandra



Sandra Ann Wolf, 78, reluctantly left this earthly plane on February 7, 2022 for the next adventure that awaits her.

The author of the Jenny the Beagle series of 12 children's books loved animals and rescued her two "fur babies" Maggie Mae and Suzi Q when they were just young pups.

 Sandra graduated from Berkshire Community College, C.W. Post College and the University of Hartford where she earned a Masters degree in education. She taught elementary school for many years and high school for many years. She also worked for CIGNA for almost 25 years and retired from there with a vast knowledge of the insurance industry.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband Leon, and her father, Jack Cohen, and mother Minnie Cohen. She leaves behind her son Michael and his wife Akiko, her son Gary and his wife Heather, and her wonderful grandson, Theodore Leon. Her brother Howard and his wife Ann along with their daughters and grandchildren will have many memories to remember her by.

There will be no calling hours and in lieu of flowers, please donate your time or donations to the animal rescue group of your choice in Sandra's name.

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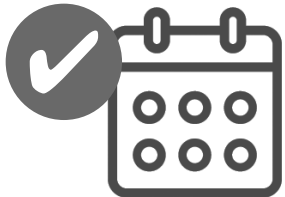
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UCONN

Investigations draw scrutiny

Student complaint sparks protests over way school is handling reports of sexual misconduct

By **Seamus McAvoy**
Hartford Courant

A UConn student’s demonstration claiming that the university mishandled its investigation into her alleged sexual assault has brought scrutiny to the university’s treatment of survivors and the process by which reports of sexual misconduct are managed.

Following a demonstration last week, UConn interim President Dr. Radenka Maric said in a statement Sunday that she wants to assess educational programs for students, how victims of sexual violence are supported and the university’s

processes in cases of sexual assault and intimate partner violence.

Maric’s statement came three days after a student stood in the rain on campus holding a sign that said she was sexually assaulted and “UConn silenced me.” The student claims an “invalidating” investigation into her report was marked by opacity and a lack of communication, and that she was pressured to accept its verdict — that the accused student was not in violation.

An Instagram post by an account called “uconnDOBETTER” sharing a photo and support for the student has garnered more than 70,000

likes since Feb. 4, and sparked protests at the university including one in the student union attended by several students holding signs of support and demanding action.

Now, the student is calling for an “overhaul” of how the administration handles reports, communicates with survivors and emphasizes mental health resources. (The Courant is not naming the student and generally does not name survivors of sexual assault.)

“And for students, my main message is looking at yourself and seeing if you’re being a bystander,” the student said. “It’s just that one minute where you think, ‘Oh, I don’t

need to say anything,’ that could be the one time that you do need to say something.”

The university also said in a statement that, while it cannot discuss specific cases or individuals, “UConn is committed to providing a safe, supportive environment on all our campuses and has a range of strategies and practices in place to further that mission.”

“UConn will always do its best in terms of education and awareness; holding those found responsible for misconduct accountable; focusing on the impact of trauma on mental health; and responsiveness to survivors,” the statement reads.

An ‘invalidating’ process: In an interview with the Courant, the student said that the incident occurred at an off-campus party last summer at a house associated with a fraternal organization.

The student said she filed three reports to three different university websites three days later. A portion of the final report shared with the Courant by the student shows that UConn’s Office of Community Standards received an incident referral report on Aug. 29. Kim Colon, assistant director of Community Standards, was assigned as case manager

Turn to UConn, Page 2

‘JEOPARDY!’

Local student headed to semis

West Hartford’s Joey Kornman credits his family for his success

By **Christopher Arnott**
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — Joey Kornman, who is from West Hartford and a junior at Brandeis College in Massachusetts, has advanced to the semifinals in the “Jeopardy!” National College Championship.

The tournament was taped in November, and Kornman, who studies Classics and Economics, is now in Greece on a semester abroad. “It’s a long time to keep a secret,” he laughed in a phone interview with the Courant.

“My mother is the only one who knows how I did in the end. My father didn’t want to know” before the shows aired.

Kornman attended Hall High School and says he’s been hearing from teachers going back to grade school complimenting him on his win.

The championship, hosted by Mayim Bialik, lasts for nine days and has been airing in prime time on ABC since Tuesday. Three dozen students compete. Kornman won a quarterfinal round on Wednesday night, which means he’ll be in the semifinals next week.

He credits his success on the show to “a lot to my family. As a very young kid we played a lot of Scrabble and word games. It’s a thing I always loved. I would compete with my siblings.”

On Wednesday’s episode, Kornman did particularly well in the comical category “Historic Mean Tweets.” He also was



Kornman

Turn to Semifinals, Page 2



The corner of West and Curtis streets in Southington would be part of Anthony Properties’ mixed-use development. **DON STACOM/HARTFORD COURANT**

Southington may tweak rules for housing project

Proposed complex off Route 229 has some weighing tax revenue, worsened traffic

By **Don Stacom**
Hartford Courant

The Texas company that’s proposing 238 apartments in Newington is also pursuing a plan for more than 264 along West Street in Southington, less than a mile from I-84.

The proposal by Anthony Properties would bring mid-rise apartment buildings to a mostly vacant parcel along Route 229 about a block and a half north of the Courtyard by Marriott.

The Dallas-based developer told town officials its proposal would bring less traffic than other uses that are permitted in that zone,

but acknowledged that it would be “a little higher, a little less denser with a little less commercial space” than what is currently allowed.

To go forward, Anthony needs the planning and zoning commission to amend the current mixed-use transition zone.

After their hearing last month, zoning commissioners decided to postpone a decision until later in February or March so they can further review the details.

The proposal has set off a long-running debate on Facebook’s Southington Talks page, where more than 270 comments have split between supporting

new tax revenue and opposing worse traffic.

Brian Shiu, the company’s vice president of development, sought to reassure the planning and zoning commission in an hourlong discussion Feb. 1.

“We’d like to bring a much-needed property type to the community, one that doesn’t currently exist — a Class A multifamily community,” he told commissioners.

He projected the development, which would include about 17,000 square feet of commercial space, would yield significant property tax revenue for the town.

“We want to make approxi-

mately a \$54 million investment in Southington and allow for an additional \$5 million or \$10 million in commercial investment,” Shiu said. “That would result in about \$900,000 to \$1 million in additional (annual) property taxes.”

William Shea, a Curtis Street homeowner, implored commissioners to thoroughly review traffic implications.

“In the 16 years we’ve lived on Curtis Street, we’ve already seen some significant increase in traffic,” he said.

What homeowners like about the neighborhood is that it’s

Turn to Complex, Page 2

Film tax incentives paying off

New report finds Connecticut’s investments have led to an increase in jobs, rise in economic output

By **Erica E. Phillips**
CT Mirror

Connecticut’s tax credit programs for film, television and digital media production have fostered economic development that may not have occurred in their absence, a new study from the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development has found.

Since 2012, the state’s three film sector incentive programs — targeted at media production, as well as the construction of facilities to support that activity — have led to job growth, personal income growth and a rise in the state’s economic output, according to researchers with industry consultancy Olsberg-SPI, who conducted the study for DECD.

“The results of this Study show that Connecticut’s incentives ... have contributed significantly to the development of the state’s film and television ecosystem,” the researchers concluded.

In fiscal year 2020, Olsberg-SPI attributed 2,978 direct, indirect and induced jobs — those created by the additional money direct and indirect workers spend locally on goods and services — to the film tax credit programs, up from 2,644 in fiscal year 2012 and a low of 842 in 2013. Personal income in those jobs grew from \$136 million in 2012 to \$199 million in 2020.

As companies in the sector spent more on production, rising to \$444 million in 2020 from \$388 million in 2012, the state saw a rise in direct, indirect and induced economic output overall. In 2020, Olsberg-

SPI found, the incentives boosted Connecticut’s economy by \$359 million — a return on investment the study said was worth \$4.60 for every dollar spent.

“Connecticut’s unique incentives offer has enabled the state to achieve what a number of other jurisdictions are aiming to do — i.e. encourage Screen producers and investors to build infrastructure and commit on a longer-term basis,” the study found.

The combined effects of Connecticut’s production and infrastructure programs have led to a heavier emphasis on digital media and television projects such as sports broadcasting, talk shows and other television series production in the state. (Theatrical feature-film projects, which tend to be shorter-lived, currently do not qualify for Connecticut tax credit programs.) There’s no cap on

Turn to Film, Page 2

CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

Virus-linked deaths continue to mount

Data: Unvaccinated 20 times more likely to die

By **Alex Putterman**
Hartford Courant

Connecticut continues to record high levels of death related to COVID-19, even as cases and hospitalizations return to pre-omicron levels.

The state on Thursday reported 136 additional coronavirus-linked deaths over the past seven days, fewer than the previous week but far more than during a typical week last year. The state has now recorded 10,219 COVID-19 deaths overall during the pandemic.

Deaths are considered a lagging indicator of COVID-19 spread, meaning their fluctua-

tions follow several weeks behind cases and hospitalizations.

Unvaccinated people in Connecticut have been more than 20 times as likely to die from COVID-19 in recent weeks as those who are vaccinated, according to state numbers.

Cases and positivity rate: Connecticut reported 1,026 new COVID-19 cases out of 23,078 tests Thursday, for a daily positivity rate of 4.45%. The state’s seven-day positivity rate now stands at 5.4%, down from 23.6% in early January and the lowest it has been since mid-December.

Turn to Virus, Page 2

CONNECTICUT

Mislabeled gnocchi may trigger severe reaction

By Christine Dempsey
Hartford Courant

State consumer officials are urging people to check their freezers for pasta that was mislabeled and could trigger a severe allergic reaction.

Durante Pasta potato gnocchi may contain milk, an allergen which is not on the label, the Department of Consumer Protection said Thursday. Milk could cause serious or life-threatening reactions to those who have an allergy. No illnesses have been reported as of Thursday morning.

West-Haven-based Durante Pasta Inc. is voluntarily recalling the potato gnocchi, which was sold in Wethersfield and Rocky Hill among other places. The pasta comes in a 16-ounce package.

Customers with a milk or sulfite allergy or sensitivity who have purchased the affected product are

urged not to eat it and throw it out or return it.

“It’s incredibly important to ensure that food products are labeled appropriately, especially when they may contain allergens that can threaten our health,” said Consumer Protection Commissioner Michelle H. Seagull. “We hope that consumers will take caution and return this product quickly if they have a milk or sulfite allergy, and we thank Durante Pasta for cooperating with the recall.”

The pasta was sold at:

- D&D Market in Wethersfield.
- Westside Market in Rocky Hill.
- CT Natural and ShopRite in Wallingford.
- Liuzzi Market and Charles’ Meat Market in North Haven.
- Northford Store in the Northford section of North Branford.

Christine Dempsey can be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.

HARTFORD

Boy, 14, shot in finger, police say

A 14-year-old boy was shot in the finger late Wednesday, police said.

The boy is listed in stable condition, they said.

Officers were alerted to the shooting about 11:40 p.m. by staff at a city hospital. The boy had arrived to be treated for a gunshot wound to his finger, police said.

“The victim claimed the shooting happened in the area of 43 Johnson Terrace,” Lt. Aaron Boisvert said in a news release. He said police don’t know the circumstances of the shooting.

The police department’s Major Crimes and Crime Scene divisions are investigating the gunfire. Anyone with information about it is asked to call the department tip line at 860-722-8477 (TIPS).

— Christine Dempsey

Complex

from Page 1

“country convenient,” Shea said, meaning it offers suburban convenience with rural quiet.

Anthony proposes to use acreage north of Curtis on the east side of Route 229. Most of that is woods or brush surrounding the vacant building that was once Pack Tracks, a pet boarding and grooming business.

Anthony Properties lists commercial and residential projects in Iowa, South Dakota, Arkansas, Colorado and elsewhere in its portfolio.

Attorney Gary O’Connor of Hartford told commissioners that Anthony Properties specializes in apartments “for empty-nesters and what we’d call active adults and also the young professional skilled workforce.”

The Southington project would have a 5,000-square-foot clubhouse for tenants’ amenities. Anthony plans a gym, nature trails and a dog park as well.

The apartments would be divided into a series of 33-unit buildings.

O’Connor acknowledged that the current zoning regulations seek a higher percentage of development be used for commercial rather than housing, but he said that part of town has already undergone a large commercial building wave.

“In order to do this project, there are a certain number of (housing) units that are required,” O’Connor said. “By increasing what we believe is a more affluent rental base in this area, they’ll be able to support the existing commercial businesses that have recently been established in the area.”

Anthony last year won approval in Newington to build 238 apartments near the CTfastrak Cedar Street station. The company plans a four-story building with studios and one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments.

Don Stacom can be reached at dstacom@courant.com.

Film

from Page 1

the state’s Film and Digital Media Production Tax Credit program and no limit on the number of years companies can apply for it. According to the report, there are a number of new infrastructure projects are underway that intend to draw on the Film Infrastructure Tax Credit in the coming years.

“In focusing on long-form production rather than solely on film, the state has built stable production throughput, rather than focusing only on itinerant projects,” the study found.

As industry grows in CT, so do the incentives.

But that also could mean Connecticut has to keep up its annual expenditures on the tax credit programs if it wants to prevent film, television and digital production from leaving the state.

As part of its research, Olsberg-SPI surveyed 37 of the 90 companies that have received tax credits under Connecticut’s programs. “When asked how much of their productions would have happened in Connecticut without the incentive, the average (median)

response was that there would be no production without the incentive,” the study found.

Dozens of other states offer enticing tax credits targeted at the sector. Without an incentive to stay, media companies could decide to shift portions of their operations — a network, a show or a streaming service, for example — to a studio facility outside Connecticut.

Yet the longer these productions stick around — and grow — the more they cost the state to support. According to the study, the annual volume of projects applying for Connecticut’s marquee tax credit program has hovered between 25 and 41 since 2012. But the average expenditure per project has jumped from \$8.7 million in 2012 to \$12 million in 2020. (The credit awards are calculated as a percentage of how much was spent on production.)

Commissioning the study

DECD called on Olsberg-SPI to provide an assessment of the program’s success thus far. At the time the study was commissioned, the numbers weren’t looking good.

DECD reported in 2019 that the average economic impact of the Film and Digital Media Production Tax Credit amounted to an annual loss of \$58,510,604 in net revenue — well over half a billion dollars between 2010 and 2019.

While the industry had created thousands of jobs and generated hundreds of millions of dollars in personal income and billions of dollars in economic value, it had come at a cost. The study aimed to figure out how high.

“We sought out a reputable company with experience in the space and commissioned the independent Olsberg study in order to take a deeper dive in an effort to better understand the dynamics and performance of the film incentives,” George Norfleet, director of DECD’s film, television and media office, said in an email. The report was initially expected last year but was delayed by several months.

Olsberg-SPI, which specializes in studying the “creative Screen industries,” has conducted similar reports for the states of New Mexico, Utah and Ohio, and for countries including the United Kingdom. Some critics have questioned whether the consultancy’s motivations are too closely aligned with the film and

television industry.

“They have a very strong economic reason to make sure that these reports show a positive impact,” said Michael N’dolo, an economic development consultant who has studied film tax credits in several states. “That in and of itself does not necessarily mean that they’re wrong,” he said.

Olsberg-SPI didn’t respond to an email request for an interview.

The big question

In response to the results of the study this week, Norfleet said it showed the tax incentive programs “are succeeding in creating in Connecticut a bona fide screen ecosystem of film, television and media companies.” The study also encouraged restoring the tax credits for theatrical feature-film production, which Norfleet said, “would certainly increase the crew base” in the state.

“We do have that type of filming going on here, and it is measurable, and it is impactful. Certainly if we specifically were to incentivize that type of production, it would increase,” he said.

Lawmakers may be prompted to ask whether existence of

that “ecosystem” is worth the state’s ongoing investment in the programs.

Olsberg-SPI calculated a return-on-investment to the state economy of \$4.60 for every dollar spent. But economic value isn’t always the best way to measure the impact of spending on an industry-specific tax incentive.

Experts say it can be more meaningful to look instead at metrics like tax revenue coming to the state and the total amount of income earned by state residents working in the sector or in related jobs, also known as “labor income.”

For fiscal year 2020, direct, indirect and induced labor income amounted to \$199 million in Connecticut, according to the study. That same year, the state paid about \$134 million in film tax credits and took in about \$38 million in tax revenue associated with those projects.

In tax revenue and labor income, the state and its residents made back about \$1.75 for every dollar spent on tax credits for the film, television and digital media sector. State lawmakers will have to decide whether that kind of return is worth keeping the program going.

Virus

from Page 1

Connecticut has averaged 975 daily COVID-19 cases over the past week, down from more than 10,000 at one point last month. Unvaccinated residents have been about three times as likely to test positive in recent weeks as vaccinated residents, according to state numbers.

All eight Connecticut counties — along with nearly the rest of the country — are recording “high” levels of COVID-19 transmission as defined by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. With this level of transmission, the CDC advises people to wear a mask in public indoor settings.

Hospitalizations: As of Thursday, Connecticut had 529 patients hospitalized with COVID-19, down 23 from Friday and the fewest at a time since Dec. 7.

Hospital officials say some patients hospitalized with COVID-19 were admitted for non-coronavirus reasons before testing positive

upon arrival but that a majority have significant COVID-19 symptoms.

According to the state, 48% of people hospitalized with COVID-19 are unvaccinated. Hospital officials say the rate is significantly higher when considering only patients with severe symptoms.

Vaccinations: As of Monday, 93.1% of all Connecticut residents and 95% of those 5 and older had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, while 77.1% of all residents and 81.2% of those 5 and older were fully vaccinated, according to the CDC.

Additionally, about 52% of fully vaccinated Connecticut residents 18 or older have received a booster dose.

The CDC warns that booster shots are sometimes misclassified as first doses, likely inflating the reported number of first-dose coverage and understating the true number of people who have received boosters.

Alex Putterman can be reached at aputterman@courant.com.

Semifinals

from Page 1

visibly relieved when a question in the “Math Reading” category turned out to be a Classics question, about Homer’s epic “The Iliad.”

“Watching it now again, it’s a little crazy, but I think I did a good job,” Kornman said. He calls the categories he had to compete in “very reasonable. It could’ve been worse.”

Kornman decided he wouldn’t stress himself out trying to study up on topics he was less knowledgeable about.

“The trickiest thing in the first episode was being calm and comfortable onstage,” he said. “If I was trying to cram, I wouldn’t be.”

He admits to not knowing a lot about sports or pop culture, but that it’s hard to prepare when you don’t have a sense of what the categories will be or what your competitors are likely to know. “Everybody there has a decent amount of knowledge,” he said.

“Also a lot of it is anagrams or trivia that’s not [conventional] learning.”

During his interview with Bialik on the show, he mentioned his love of flags, or vexillology, saying he has a large flag of Antigua in his room.

Having appeared on the National College Championship means that Kornman isn’t eligible to compete on any other form of “Jeopardy!” in the future, though if he turns out to have won the championship he may appear in future champion matches.

There is a grand prize of \$250,000 for the “Jeopardy!” national college champion, with a second-place prize of \$100,000, \$50,000 for third place, \$35,000 for fourth place, \$20,000 for those who don’t advance past the semifinals and \$10,000 for those who don’t advance past the quarterfinals.

How Kornman ultimately did in the championship can not be revealed until the shows air, but winning on Wednesday meant he won at least \$20,000.

He hasn’t decided what to do with the bulk of it yet, but says it has come in handy during his time in Greece and that he “bought my girlfriend some jewelry.”

The semifinals happen over four episodes, shown over two nights, Feb. 17-18 at 8 p.m. The championship final airs Feb. 22 at 8 p.m.

Pomfret Center resident Gus Guskowski, who attends Dartmouth College, competed on the first night of the tournament, which was won by Isaac Applebaum of Stanford University.

Yale University student Sebastian Torres from Tampa, Florida, who’s a junior studying Ethics, Politics and Economics, will appear in a quarterfinal match on Feb. 15.

The local ABC affiliate is WTNH, which also airs the regular syndicated “Jeopardy!” series weeknights at 7 p.m. The National College Championship episodes are also streaming on Hulu.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.

UConn

from Page 1

on Aug. 31.

In a statement, the university outlined what it describes as “a trauma-informed approach” to handling reports of sexual misconduct, granting survivors the choice of whether or not to move forward with an investigation.

The student said staff with UConn’s Office of Institutional Equity repeatedly asked her whether she was sure she wanted to pursue an investigation, suggesting she should take her schoolwork and mental health into account. The questioning nearly discouraged her from continuing with the process, she said.

The student filed a formal complaint on Sept. 10, and the university opened a Title IX investigation. Nearly one month later, the investigation was moved out of the Title IX process because the incident “did not occur within the University’s programs or activities,” according to the final report.

According to new Title IX guidelines, property owned and operated by fraternal organizations that are not formally recognized by the university are not covered by Title IX rules. The only recognized housing for UConn fraternities and sororities is in Husky Village, according to Stephanie Reitz, a university spokesperson.

The university can, however, review violations under its student code of conduct. State police have jurisdiction over off-campus criminal misconduct. Reitz said the option to open a police an investigation is offered to those reporting sexual assault.

The student said the following weeks were marked by repeated interviews as Colon questioned her and her friends who also attended the August party, as well as the accused student.

The process was “invalidating,” the student said. “Every time [Colon] questioned me, it felt like I was lying,” she said. “It was very difficult, the way the system operated.”

The student said she sent Colon an email in early December to ask if there were any updates, and learned that her case had been closed since Nov. 12. The report was completed on Nov. 23, according to the final report, which found that there was “insufficient evidence to indicate a violation of The Student Code.”

What occurred “based on each party’s statements is discrepant,” the report reads.

The student said she was shocked and dismayed to see her report reduced to a “he said, she said.” Several students have reached out to her to share that their cases ended the same way.

She was given three business days to decide whether she wanted to agree to the report’s findings, or

advance to a hearing where the case would be considered by other officers — a process she said she was told could take months, only to end with the same result.

The student said she didn’t respond within that time frame, bringing the case to a close. “That was a big decision, I couldn’t make that decision in three days,” she said. “There was never any sense of empathy either, that I had just completely lost my case.”

The student learned of the investigation’s findings shortly before winter break, which she spent thinking about what action to take next. “What am I going to do that’s going to be able to reach the most people and cause the most chaos?” she said.

After a recent protest at the student union, a handful of other protests led by student organizations and supportive peers followed.

Previous complaints: UConn has been criticized for its handling of reports of sexual assault before.

In 2014, UConn reached a settlement agreement to pay \$1.3 million to five women who alleged that their claims of sexual assault were not taken seriously.

The university adamantly denied any wrongdoing. In a statement, it said the settlement “was reached to avoid the lengthy and expensive process of litigating the dispute claims at trial.”

The complex, lengthy inves-

tigative process was also a point of contention for a male student accused of sexual misconduct in 2019.

In a federal lawsuit, the student, who was only identified as “John Doe,” claimed the university only informed him of the complaint five months after it was made and did not give him an opportunity to present a defense.

UConn later agreed to grant that student a second hearing, which avoided the possibility of placing the university’s protocols under federal scrutiny.

In UConn’s federally mandated 2021 Clery Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, nine incidents of sexual assault were reported in 2020. Six of those were reported to have occurred on campus property.

Eighty incidents of sexual assault were reported in total to UConn in 2020, according to the university’s latest annual report to the state. Thirty-four were reported to have occurred in that year, and 22 named an alleged violator connected to UConn.

The university noted that these annual reports have “far broader parameters and therefore larger numbers” than those found in the Clery report.

“They include incidents with no connection to UConn, incidents that occurred before the reporting year, or other circumstances that prevent UConn from intervening in an enforcement role,” according

to a statement.

Those reports led to three investigations, all of which found either no violation or that the university was not responsible.

Of the remaining 19 reports, 10 complainants chose not to pursue an investigation with the university, according to UConn’s Office of Institutional Equity. UConn no longer had jurisdiction in six other cases, according to the office, and three more didn’t proceed because they were made by an unknown complainant.

In a message sent to the UConn community Sunday evening, Maric issued the request for help in assessing the university’s practices.

“In the same manner with which I participated in the President’s Task Force for Mental Health and Wellness and the Climate Action Task Force, I have asked Dean of Students Elly Daugherty to join me in bringing together students, staff, and faculty to assess our current educational programs for students (including orientation and online trainings), how we support victims of sexual violence, and the university’s processes regarding sexual assault and intimate partner violence,” Maric wrote.

“No one should stand alone. To me, that is the unresolved question for our university: ‘What more must we do to support victims and increase education and awareness throughout our community?’ ” she wrote.

CONNECTICUT

Flower and Garden Show back in bloom after hiatus

By Susan Dunne
Hartford Courant

The Connecticut Flower and Garden Show, the state's annual wintertime mood lifter, took a break last year because of the coronavirus pandemic. Now it's back, with springtime busting out early inside the Connecticut Convention Center from Feb. 24-27.

The Hartford gathering comes at a time when some New England flower shows — in Maine, Vermont and Boston — have been called off this year.

Polly Brooks of Litchfield, president of Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc., said the show has been organized with care to protect attendees.

"It won't be as big as it has in the past, with the crowd cheek to jowl," Brooks said. "We have allowed more room for people to social distance. The intent is for everybody to love it, just as safely as possible."

Brooks said she has noticed, from social media interactions, that gardening in the state has found a lot of new fans since the health crisis began.

"All sorts of people moved to Connecticut or already lived in Connecticut and were looking at their homes and realizing they had a front lawn and a back lawn and a porch for containers. I think a lot of people were perhaps unconnected to their surroundings," she said.

Brooks touted gardening as a stress reliever, an important balm during troubled times.

"Biophilia is a good word. It's about our body's response to nature, to getting out and walking in the forest or digging in the garden," she said. "Gardening has been shown to release endorphins. We feel better when we get out and get around the green. There's a recognition that this I part of who we are."

Kristie Gonsalves, president of North East Expos, which produces

the show, said even before the gardening season, the garden show itself is a stress reducer.

"Everyone is welcomed by the smell of spring and the sounds of spring. You look at their faces and there is joy," Gonsalves said.

"Over the past two years of solitude, many people found indoor or outdoor gardening offers a calming, welcome escape, some discovering it for the very first time."

Gonsalves said advance sales have been robust, with senior centers throughout the state buying large blocks of tickets. "A lot of the senior centers have been closed. Many folks live alone and haven't had the socialization. They're the ones who need the 'aaahhhh' the most."

The theme of the show is "Rhythm and Blooms."

The event features live gardens created by landscape designers and nonprofit organizations; seminars and demonstrations; the Federated Garden Clubs' Standard



The state's annual Flower and Garden Show will return to the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford on Feb. 24. **COURTESY**

Flower Show; vendors; a soil-testing station by the UConn Co-op; and an exhibit about how sound in gardens is created by wind, water and wildlife.

Among the seminars are growing a pollinator garden, floral arranging, starting wildflower seeds, gardening for wildlife, rain-gutter gardening, culinary herbs, Connecticut's historic gardens, Victorian flowers, water-garden basics, lawn care, how to create a monarch butterfly habitat and succulents.

A floral sculpture will be created by Shauna Shane of Storrs.

Connecticut Flower & Garden Show: Rhythm and Blooms will be Feb. 24 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Feb. 25 and 26 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Feb. 27 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Connecticut Convention Center in downtown Hartford. Admission, in advance online, is \$16. At the door, it's \$20, \$5 ages 5 to 12, free for 5 and younger.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.



Connecticut audiences are the first to see the new tour of "Swan Lake" by the Russian Ballet Theatre. **COURTESY PHOTOS**

REVIEW

‘Swan Lake’ puts tradition center stage

Russian Ballet Theatre kicks off new tour in Waterbury, Hartford

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

Ballet's back at the Bushnell. A new tour of "Swan Lake" from the young yet staid Russian Ballet Theatre rehearsed for days at the Palace Theater in Waterbury, where the show premiered Wednesday.

On Saturday, the company will perform a 7 p.m. show at The Bushnell.

The RBT, made up of Russian-trained dancers, choreographers and designers, was just founded in 2015, at a time when ballet companies have been waning, not starting up fresh.

This "Swan Lake" features original choreography, bright clean colorful costumes and elaborate backdrops, yet the whole production aspires to seem traditional, classical and old-school. Nadezhda Kalinina's choreography is directly based on the famous 1895 St. Petersburg "Swan Lake" revival that inspired many, many other productions before this.

The ornate cloth backdrops, front to mention a translucent front curtain with vines painted across it, are the sort of scenic



The Russian Ballet Theatre rehearsed at the Palace Theater in Waterbury, where the show premiered Wednesday.

design we associate with the early 1900s, though admittedly a superior example of it, with the surroundings growing more spectacular from scene to scene, culminating in a magnificent Act Two ballroom of faux-stained-glass and dangling chandeliers. The costumes may be new, but they enforce the oldest ideas of these characters, including pointy-hatted jesters, royalty in robes and crowns and of course women in tutus as swans. The storyline, about a woman who's been turned into a swan and the prince who loves her, is told clearly, without subtext or over-interpretation. There are multi-

ple accepted endings for "Swan Lake," and one of the happily-ever-after ones is used here.

Such familiar, somewhat unimaginative trappings have an advantage. When they do change unexpectedly, as for the dark, moody outdoor final scene of the ballet, they can astonish. The basic backdrops also push you to concentrate on the quality of the dancing and not any distractions in the environment. The lead performers Olga Kifyak (as Odette and Odile) and Eugene Svetlitsa (as Prince Siegfried) have been with Russian Ballet Theatre since its inception and have headed previous tours of

If you go

"Swan Lake" will be performed Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at The Bushnell, 166 Capitol Ave., Hartford. Tickets are \$42-\$119. Find more information at bushnell.org.

"Swan Lake." They return to their roles with gusto.

The traditional framework of this "Swan Lake" means that the dancers care about precision as much as expression. The dancing is so acrobatic, so grounded in established routines that it feels like a dreamlike extension of this week's Winter Olympics.

One disappointment, though an understandable one, is that the dancers dance to pre-recorded rendition of Tchaikovsky's score. No live musicians are on the tour.

Connecticut has been a bastion of modern dance for a century, and such an entrenched classical ballet could come off as rather quaint. Not at the Palace, however, which is as grand and ornate as this ballet. It is also a good fit for the austere Bushnell. Russian Ballet Theatre's "Swan Lake" is like a time capsule, capturing the richness and fullness and formality that once defined all ballet.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.

‘Barring a miracle,’ Glastonbury’s Harry’s Pizza to close

By Susan Dunne
Hartford Courant

Harry's Pizza in Glastonbury, "barring a miracle," will close permanently on Sunday, it was announced on Facebook on Wednesday.

The announcement on the restaurant's official page read

"It is with the heaviest of hearts that we are reaching out to you today. As you may know, Eric and Crystal took over ownership of Harry's Pizza in Glastonbury after COVID had already begun. This pandemic greatly affected the previous owners and Harry's was to be no more. We heard your cries and took on the reopening of our

favorite pizza place. That being said, COVID has still affected us. "Unfortunately, we plan to close Harry's Pizza permanently Sunday February 13th. ... Barring a miracle, we will not be able to stay open past Sunday."

The Facebook post added "If you or anyone you know has any outstanding gifts cards, please use

them now."

Harry's is at 363 New London Turnpike. Eric Lee and Crystal Lyle, who took over Harry's Pizza in October 2020, could not be reached immediately for comment on Thursday.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

Funding awarded to green projects

\$24M to go to 10 towns, including West Hartford for electric vehicle effort

By Alex Putterman
Hartford Courant

The Connecticut Department of Transportation will award \$24 million to fund projects aimed at reducing transportation emissions and improving air quality in 10 towns, Gov. Ned Lamont announced Thursday.

In addition to projects meant to ease traffic and reduce congestion, the money will help fund West Hartford's first electric vehicles, as well as charging stations in West Hartford, Canton and Ansonia.

Amid failure to pass sweeping transportation legislation, Lamont has emphasized efforts to increase electric vehicle usage in Connecticut, while climate groups have demanded he do more.

"These strategic investments will not only help eliminate traffic bottlenecks in certain communities and buildout electric vehicle chargers in others, but they will also help move Connecticut towards cleaner air and a cleaner transportation system," Lamont said in a statement Thursday. "Technology in transportation can help unlock climate solutions for our state."

The \$24 million that will be allocated across Connecticut comes from the federal government's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Problem, which provides funds to states for transportation projects.

The 10 recipients are:


- Ansonia: \$427,600 for non-automobile transportation and electric vehicle charging
- Bridgeport: \$4 million to "improve traffic flow, reduce delay, and alleviate congestion along the Park Avenue corridor"
- Bristol: \$3,370,500 to "improve traffic operations with better traffic signal timing and pedestrian crossings in the downtown area"
- Canton: \$40,000 to install six new electric vehicle charging stations for residents
- Danbury: \$1.25 million to reduce congestion along Main St. and Osbourne St.
- Greenwich: \$4 million to install adaptive signal control technology along Route 1
- Hamden: \$3,789,037 to update traffic signal equipment
- Norwalk: \$3,401,850 to upgrade traffic signals and more
- Stamford: \$3.375 million to upgrade old signal equipment at six intersections
- West Hartford: \$20,952 to support the purchase of the town's first electric vehicles, as well as a charging station at Town Hall for public use

Alex Putterman can be reached at aputterman@courant.com.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Mary C. Cubeta, Late of Higganum, AKA Mary Cubeta (22-0045)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated January 31, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Jacqueline Craco, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Robert A. Cubeta, PO. Box 108, Higganum, CT 06441
2/11/2022 7147294

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Yale J. Gordon, Sr., Late of Killingworth (22-0024)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated February 8, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Jacqueline Craco, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Yale J. Gordon, Jr., 89 Hemlock Dr., Killingworth, CT 06419

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF DEEP RIVER
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

The Deep River Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom Videoconference, for the following:

a. Subdivision Application, one lot subdivision of 164 Cedar Lake Road (Map 16, Lot 2A); Applicant: Ronald Prisley.

b. Text Amendment to Zoning Regulations, Section 7B.11, Accessory Apartments; Applicant: Deep River Planning & Zoning Commission.

c. Text Amendment to Subdivision Regulations, Section 5.8, Open Space; Applicant: Deep River Planning & Zoning Commission.

The public may speak and submit written communications until the close of the public hearing. Details zoning@deepriverct.us or available in the Land Use Office.

Anthony Bolduc
Chairman
2/4, 2/11/2022 7142664

LEGAL NOTICE
BRISTOL, CT
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Notice is hereby given that at the February 8, 2022 City Council meeting amendments to the Bristol Code of Ordinances were adopted as follows, effective February 25, 2022:

- Sec. 16-3 – Tobacco products prohibited in city parks and recreational properties. It shall be prohibited, at all times, for an individual to smoke and/or use any tobacco or cannabis product in any form while at a city park or recreational property.
- Sec. 16-7. Definitions. "Cannabis" means marijuana, as defined in section 21a-240 of the CT General Statutes; "Cannabis product" means cannabis that is in the form of cannabis concentrate or a product that contains cannabis, which may be combined with other ingredients, and is intended for use or consumption.

Copies are available for public distribution at the City Clerk's Office during office hours.

ATTEST:
Therese Pac
Town and City Clerk
2/11/2022 7147083

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Robert A. Lefebvre, Late of Clinton, AKA Robert Alan Lefebvre (22-0053)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated February 1, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Jacqueline Craco, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Darcee Lefebvre
c/o THOMAS ANTHONY VIRGULTO, HILL & HILL, LLC, 2E SAMSON ROCK DRIVE, MEIGSWOOD, MADISON, CT 06443
2/11/2022 7147300

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Sarah Jane Haneman, Late of Clinton (22-0013)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated February 2, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Marge B. Calltharp, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Theresa Fanelli
c/o HOWARD GOULD, FARRELL GEENTY SHEELEY & BOCCALATTE PC, 205 OLD BOSTON POST RD, OLD SAYBROOK, CT 06475
2/11/2022 7147304

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF KEVIN E. WALL, Late of East Hampton (22-00015)

The Hon. Jennifer L. Berkenstock, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Region #14 Probate Court, by decree dated February 2, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Suzanne B. Emond, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Alea L. Wall
c/o EVELINA MONIKA RUSZKOWSKI, THE PRUE LAW GROUP PC., 720 MAIN ST 4TH FL, WILLIMANTIC, CT 06226
2/11/2022 7147303

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
COUNCIL OFFICE
MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Notice is hereby given that at the Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Middletown held on Monday, February 7, 2022, at 7:00 PM the proposed ordinance was approved, amending Chapter 14 ("Boards, Committees, and Commissions"), Article VI ("Building Committees"), Section 14-24 ("Membership"), Subsection D of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Middletown so that, for any project with special circumstances and having a written explanation from the Mayor, the Mayor may designate, with the consent of the Common Council, an existing commission, committee, or board to serve as the building committee.

ATTEST:

LINDA S.K. REED
Common Council Clerk
Dated this 11th day of February 2022
2/11/2022 7146617

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Estuary Transit District (ETD) is seeking sealed proposals from qualified individuals or firms to perform a Human Resources Study. Copies of the RFP are available by emailing emutez@estuary-transit.org or by calling (860) 346-0212, ext. 131.

Proposals must be delivered by mail or hand delivery to Ennab Mutez, Estuary Transit District, 91 N Main St, Middletown, CT 06457. Proposals, to be considered and evaluated, must be received before 3:00 PM on March 10, 2022. Proposals received after the above scheduled opening time and date will not be considered. Faxed or e-mailed proposals are not acceptable.

ETD reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive any and all informalities or irregularities, to negotiate with any qualified bidders, and to accept or reject all or any part of any proposal as they may deem to be in the best interest of ETD.

2/11/2022 7147483

COUNCIL OFFICE
MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Notice is hereby given that at the regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Middletown held on Monday, February 7, 2022, the following action was taken:

APPROVED: Economic & Community Development: \$50,000 – Acct. No. 1000-27000-55400-0000-00000-0000-00; for City to partner with the Middlesex County Historical Society and Wesleyan University to apply for a National Register Designation for Beman Triangle and to look to update the City's Historic Properties Inventory list to be more inclusive. The goal is to highlight histories of our traditionally marginalized communities.

ATTEST:

LINDA S.K. REED
Common Council Clerk

Dated at Middletown, Connecticut, this 11th day of February 2022
2/11/2022 7146609

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING
CHATHAM HEALTH DISTRICT

Towns of Colchester, East Haddam, East Hampton, Hebron, Marlborough and Portland

The Chatham Health District Board of Health will hold a Special Meeting/Public Hearing on February 22, 2022 at 2 p.m. via Zoom. Meeting ID: 83182846439. The purpose of this Special Meeting is for the consideration of adopting the Proposed Chatham Health District 2022-2023 Budget.




At this hearing, interested persons may appear and be heard and written communications will be received.

The Proposed Chatham Health District 2022-2023 Budget is available for public review at <http://www.chathamhealth.org> and in any of the District Offices.

Russell Melmed
Director of Health
2/11, 2/18/2022 7146901


Sudoku
EVERY DAY IN
Living

Get Your
Foodie On
THURSDAYS IN
Flavor



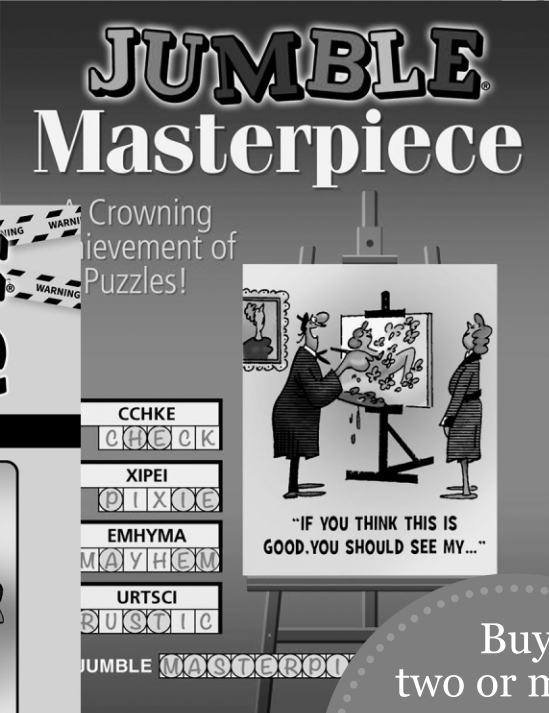
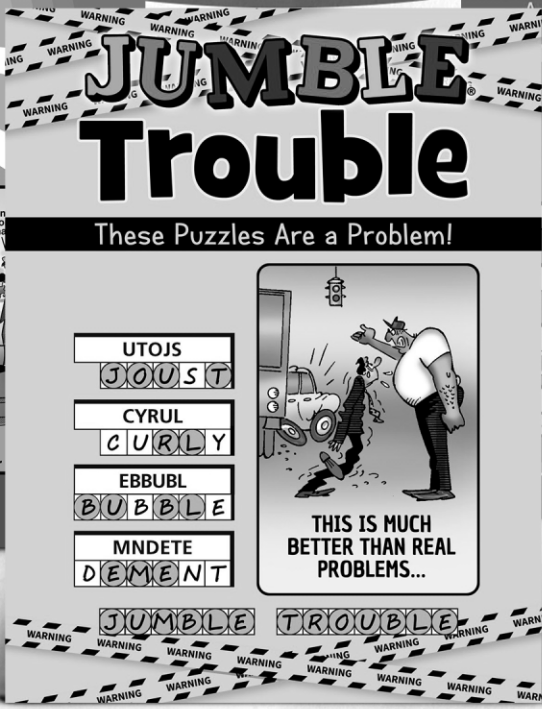
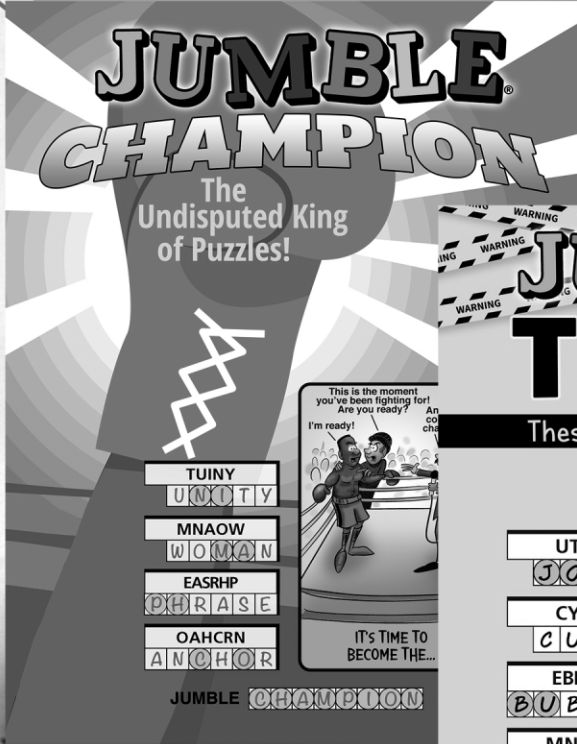
I asked what kind of family Amina wanted. She said, ‘A family like yours.’ That’s when I knew I had to adopt her.

Denise, adopted 17-year-old Amina



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TV REVIEW

Rewind to the '90s when a sex tape went viral

By **Nina Metz**
Chicago Tribune

The first episode of “Pam & Tommy,” Hulu’s wild ride of a biopic TV series about the early years of Pamela Anderson and Tommy Lee’s marriage and their stolen sex tape, is titled “Drilling and Pounding.” There’s all kinds of home renovation going on in their mansion, see, and if you somehow didn’t get the smirky-winky double entendre, the episode features Seth Rogen in a splendiferous mullet as Rand Gauthier, a carpenter working in the couple’s Malibu home (who would eventually steal their sex tape and distribute it), going to town with a nail gun downstairs while the newlyweds are upstairs audibly taking the episode’s title to heart.

That Gauthier was an electrician in real life rather than a carpenter is probably too inconvenient to mention and ruins the nail gun joke that, as a scene-setters go, is laying it on pretty thick. The thing about “Pam & Tommy” is that it wants to have fun *right* up until it wants to be serious. The tonal clash is intentional, between the whirlwind mid-'90s romance of the “Baywatch” star and Motley Crue drummer — fueled by sex, drugs and a raucous courtship in Cancun — to something distinctly stomach curdling when their private homemade tape becomes a very public obsession. I get the idea behind the show’s structure, I’m just not sure it actually *works*.

That’s because so much of it focuses on Gauthier, presented here as a shambling sad sack whose motives are given a lot of consideration. (For the sake of clarity, I’ll refer to the real-world people by their last names and their characters by their first names.) When Lee fired Gauthier, refused to pay his outstand-



Sebastian Stan as Tommy and Lily James as Pam portray the titular couple in the series “Pam & Tommy.” **ERIN SIMKIN/HULU**

ing bill and also apparently pointed a shotgun at the guy, a revenge fantasy was plotted into a reality and this is worthy context — to a point. But Pam and Tommy — you know, the two victims of the *crime* — are sometimes disconcertingly sidelined in this retelling.

Which is a shame because as the central couple, Lily James and Sebastian Stan dive into their roles with an enthusiasm I found hard to resist. With these particular characters, once you get the shorthand visuals right — Anderson’s tousled platinum hair and Lee’s tattoos — you’re most of the way there before they even say a line of dialogue. The transformation works a little better with James, who physically disappears into the role in a way that Stan doesn’t. But they

both have the mannerisms down cold and it’s a terrific balancing act they pull off, contrasting the pair’s hard-partying impulsiveness with their surprisingly cozy domestic life at home. (I love the production design detail that has their bedroom awash in serene, cream-colored everything, down to the wall-to-wall carpet, which is entirely at odds with Lee’s image.) They live a cosseted life and have bought into the ridiculousness of the celebrity bubble they inhabit, even as they each experience professional frustrations — Pam on the set of “Baywatch,” where it’s made clear she exists to be ogled, and Tommy as he sees the ascendance of grunge rock forcefully pushing him and his bandmates aside.

Individually and together, they are never

less than human, no matter the chaos around them, and they are wonderfully besotted with one another. It’s hard to know if their marriage would have lasted regardless of the tape — in 1998, when Lee was sentenced to six months in jail for spousal battery against Anderson, the judge noted his long standing pattern of resolving problems with violence — but the release of that tape without their consent was most assuredly a violation that brought considerable stress and conflict into their home just a year into their relationship. This was the Age of Alta Vista, when the internet was a relatively new phenomenon. Welcome to going viral.

Anderson bore the brunt of the jokes and the indignities. According to a recent profile in *Variety*, the creatives involved in

the show both in front of the camera and behind it (including co-showrunners D.V. DeVincentis and Robert D. Siegel, as well as “I, Tonya” director Craig Gillespie) felt “they were on a mission to correct that record — and in particular, perhaps find a little recompense for Anderson.”

Here’s why that vindication angle rings hollow: Anderson has no involvement with the show and reportedly isn’t thrilled about its existence. So the very act of vindicating her requires ... re-violating her. Re-exploiting her. And the series understands this on a very basic level: “When something bad happens,” Pam says to a reporter she’s invited into her home, “all I want to do is move on, move past it, put it behind me.” If you understand her philosophy enough to write that line of dialogue,

then presumably you’d also understand this period of her life isn’t something she probably wants to see dredged up all over again. And yet here we are.

The series can’t quite square that circle. Many people not named Anderson and Lee made *a lot* of money from that tape; it has generated \$77 million, according to a note on screen before the final end credits. Now an entirely different group of people not named Anderson and Lee are profiting from this saga almost 30 years later

Let’s circle back to Gauthier, who set all of this in motion. We’re clearly meant to sympathize with him and his skuzzy-mopey incompetence, even as we’re disgusted with his choices, and “Pam & Tommy” is unequivocal that he ultimately saw the error of his ways.

But this appears to be wishful thinking on the part of Rogen and producing partner Evan Goldberg (who jointly developed the show). The 2014 *Rolling Stone* article on which the series is based — an in-depth narrative about how and why the tape was stolen and what happened in the aftermath — suggests no remorse whatsoever on Gauthier’s part.

In fact, it’s quite the opposite: “Everyone once in a while, he’ll tell someone he was the guy who stole the Pamela Anderson and Tommy Lee sex tape,” the article notes in closing. “Almost no one believes him. But he likes the fact that he contributed this small token to the world, and he’s always enjoyed watching the tape itself.”

Why “Pam & Tommy” chooses to frame Gauthier in a sympathetic light becomes a singularly if unintentionally interesting question underscoring the entire series.

Where to watch: Hulu

Trauma bonds in psychological thriller series ‘The Girl Before’

By **Kate Feldman**
New York Daily News

In “The Girl Before,” everyone is recovering from trauma, including the eccentric architect played by David Oyelowo.

The HBO Max series, now streaming and based on the bestselling novel of the same name by JP Delaney, switches between two timelines that are linked by the architect, Edward Monkford, and his rules.

In the first, a young couple, Emma (Jessica Plummer) and Simon (Ben Hardy), move into his minimalist home to escape from a burglary in their own place. In the second, set a few years later, Jane (Gugu Mbatha-Raw) packs her bags for the same place after her own trauma.

Jane and Emma look alike, but more importantly, they are alike. Both are running from their own nightmares, seeking out routine and comfort in Edward’s neurotic contract that bans pets, children, plants, books and personal belongings.

“The reality is that both Jane and Emma, these different traumas that they’ve experienced have led them to needing to take some control of their lives — to live in a very controlled environment, a confined environment, an environment that has very clear rules,” said Oyelowo.

“Having come out of situations that were essentially with no rules, or the rules were broken and they were the victims of those broken rules, I can see, and I hope the audience can empathize with, why they make the decisions they make,” added the 45-year-old British actor who played Martin Luther King Jr. in 2014 movie “Selma.” Meanwhile, Edward



David Oyelowo as Edward and Gugu Mbatha-Raw as Jane in the series “The Girl Before.” **AMANDA SEARLE/HBO MAX**

is hiding from his own trauma. Or maybe he is just trying to control it. While Jane and Emma are running away, he lives in his baggage, handing out questionnaires to find the perfect woman to live in his home and manipulating them into his storybook tale.

“My character suffers from something called repetition compulsion, which is that he keeps repeating the same psychosexual drama again and again, hoping for it to have a different result from the time at which the trauma happened to him,” Oyelowo said.

“But we all know the result of doing the same thing time and again and expecting a different result.”

“The Girl Before” is at once a murder mystery and a psychological thriller. At times, both Emma and Jane feel as if they’re going crazy, confirmed by the men in their lives working their own angles.

Edward gets away with his crazy, Oyelowo said, because of his genius.

The actor compared it to people working in his own industry: “The quality of the work they create excuses them.”

“In society,” he said, “we give people a pass if they are exceptional in one way whilst also being really difficult in other ways.”

For a while, Edward’s goals align with Emma’s, and later, Jane’s. Once they stop, the safe house that once provided a regimen to counteract the chaos becomes claustrophobic, full of secrets and whispers. The structure is now suffocating.

But in “The Girl Before,” you can’t just leave. Edward’s hold, simultaneously magnetic and disquieting, is unshakeable.

“Because of what he has experienced and how he is now subjecting people to his need for control over his life, he is now foisting that on others and needing to control them,” Oyelowo said. “Ultimately, his journey is one of letting go. And the question is, can he? Will he? What is the cost of doing that? It is certainly not something he is going to do without a fight.

“For everyone in the show, it is about what, ultimately, is going to be the thing that gets you whole: Holding on or letting go?”

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): Knowing who’s who could be your special power at this time. That information won’t get you far unless you use it. Convince someone important that you’re worth paying attention to. Grab the opportunity when it presents itself.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Being convincing and being right aren’t the same thing. Some people are better at making their point than others, but that doesn’t mean they have all the answers. If you aren’t careful, you might end up ignoring people who really know what they’re talking about. Consider what’s actually been said.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Mysteries are interesting! However, you probably want to get to the bottom of things now. If the result is disappointing, remind yourself that there are still plenty of other things to learn. You might find that other people are much more impressed than you’d anticipated.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): What you say matters as much as what you do. A close friend may be hanging on to your every word! Make sure they’re really good words. Gathering your words before you share them can help everyone understand you. This is an ideal time to talk someone into something.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): It could feel as if someone is constantly looking over your shoulder. That may make it hard to get on with your daily tasks — particularly if your audience offers some unwanted commentary. The best approach could be to grit your teeth and try to let it wash over you. They’ll back off.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Get the ball rolling. It’s one thing to come up with innovative ideas. Acting on them is quite another! If you’re not sure exactly how you should go about things, maybe you need more information. Figure out what inspires you. The sooner you start, the sooner you can spark ideas into real action.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Someone close to you is keeping a secret from you today. Try to consider their point of view. They might be worried about how you’ll react or not have all the facts they need to share. There’s no need to make a big deal out of something that might turn out to be trivial in the end.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): What people say and what they mean can be very different things. Listen very carefully, because what others don’t say might be just as important as what they do say. People think you already know what they’re referencing. You might have to ask more questions than usual.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The world isn’t conspiring against you right now. It may be way too easy to misplace things, so it’s worth thoroughly searching and asking around for any items before giving up on finding them. Fretting won’t help. Do something productive to resolve the situation.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Today you’re likely to be blessed with amazing powers of persuasion — use them! People are more likely to agree with you than usual. They may also find you trustworthy. Between your focus and your ability to keep a secret, you can be a communication powerhouse today.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You don’t need to make excuses. Wanting some privacy doesn’t mean you’re up to anything dodgy. When it comes down to it, others might be less interested than you thought they would be. They have their own things to worry about. Quietly get on with things.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): There’s nothing wrong with taking your friends seriously, but right now you might be acting a little intense. You may worry that they’re trying to manipulate you. There’s a difference between sharing fun and trying to make sure things go their way. Pay close attention.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On Feb. 11, 1847, inventor Thomas Alva Edison was born in Milan, Ohio.

In 1963, American poet Sylvia Plath was found dead in her London flat, a suicide; she was 30.

In 1975, Margaret Thatcher was elected leader of Britain’s Conservative Party.

In 1990, Nelson Mandela was freed after 27 years in captivity.

In 2006, Vice President Dick Cheney accidentally shot Harry Whittington, a companion during a quail-hunting trip in Texas.

In 2011, Egypt exploded

with joy after pro-democracy protesters brought down President Hosni Mubarak.

In 2013, with a few words in Latin, Pope Benedict XVI announced his resignation.

In 2020, the World Health Organization gave the name COVID-19 to the coronavirus that had emerged in Wuhan, China.

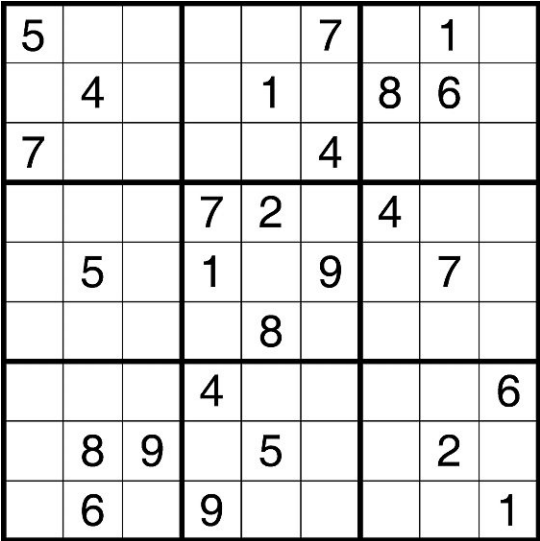
BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at [PlayJumble.com](https://www.playjumble.com)



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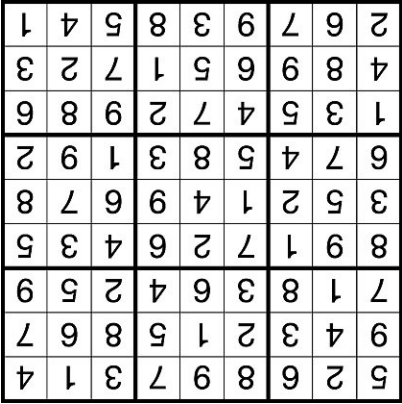
SUDOKU



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Level: 1 2 3 4

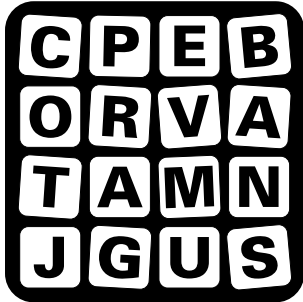
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.



BOGGLE



By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



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www.bogglebrainbusters.com

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

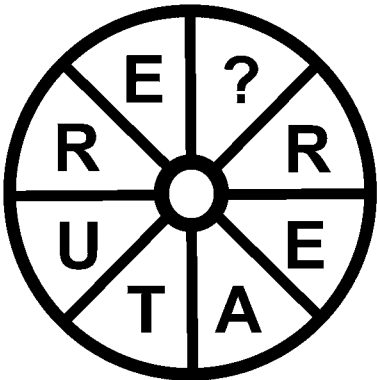
BOGGLE® POINT SCALE
3 letters = 1 point
4 letters = 2 points
5 letters = 3 points
6 letters = 4 points
7 letters = 5 points
8 letters = 6 points
9+ letters = 10 points

YOUR BOGGLE® RATING
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101-150 = Expert
61-100 = Pro
31-60 = Gamer
21-30 = Rookie
11-20 = Amateur
0-10 = Try again

Boggle® BrainBusters Bonus
We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?

Find SIX WORDS RELATED TO COFFEE in the grid of letters.

WordWheel



Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.

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WORD SEARCH

Wordsearch: corner shop

289

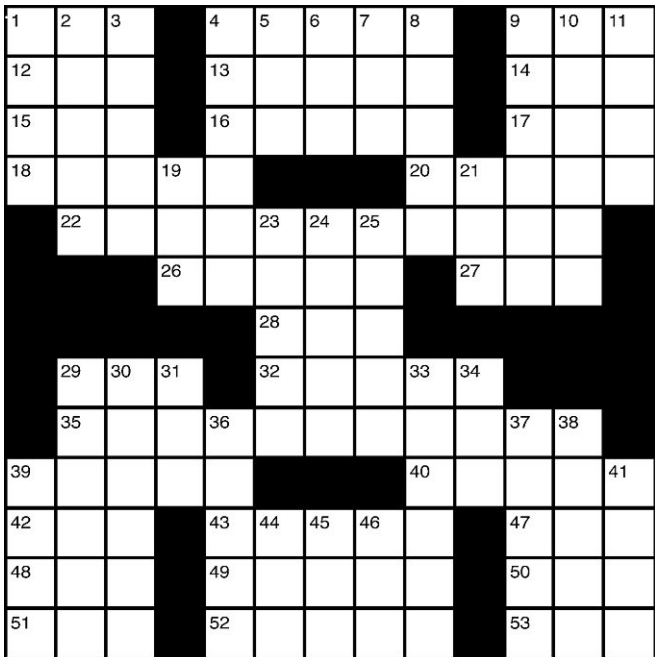
Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.



- | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|-----------|------------|
| ALL HOURS | COMICS | ICE CREAM | PIES |
| BAGS | CONFECTIONERY | ICEBLOCKS | PUZZLES |
| BOOKS | COUNTER | LATE | SHELVES |
| BREAD | CRISPS | LOCAL | SNACK |
| BUNS | DETERGENT | LOZENGES | SOAP |
| BUTTER | DISPLAY | MAGAZINES | SOUP |
| CANS | EGGS | MARGARINE | STATIONERY |
| CARDS | FILMS | MILK | SWEETS |
| CAT FOOD | FLOWERS | MINTS | TILL |
| CHEWING GUM | FRIDGE | PAPERS | VEGETABLES |
| CIGARETTES | FRUIT | PENS | |

TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/7/16

ACROSS

- Pacino and Molinaro
- "Crouching __, Hidden Dragon: Sword of Destiny"; 2016 film
- Premium cable channel
- Short swim
- Clear the slate
- Actor Holbrook
- Actress MacGraw
- "__ Without a Cause"; James Dean movie
- Braggart's problem
- Osmond sister
- "__ Grow Up"; "Peter Pan" song
- Actress on "Fresh Off the Boat"
- Ponti; Sophia Loren's hubby
- "A Nightmare on __ Street"; Johnny Depp horror movie
- Feel sick
- "__ Got a Secret"
- Acquire knowledge
- Actor on "Heartbeat"
- Steve or Woody
- Caesar's "__, I saw, I conquered"
- Tillis or Tormé
- Hatcher and Garr



8/7/16

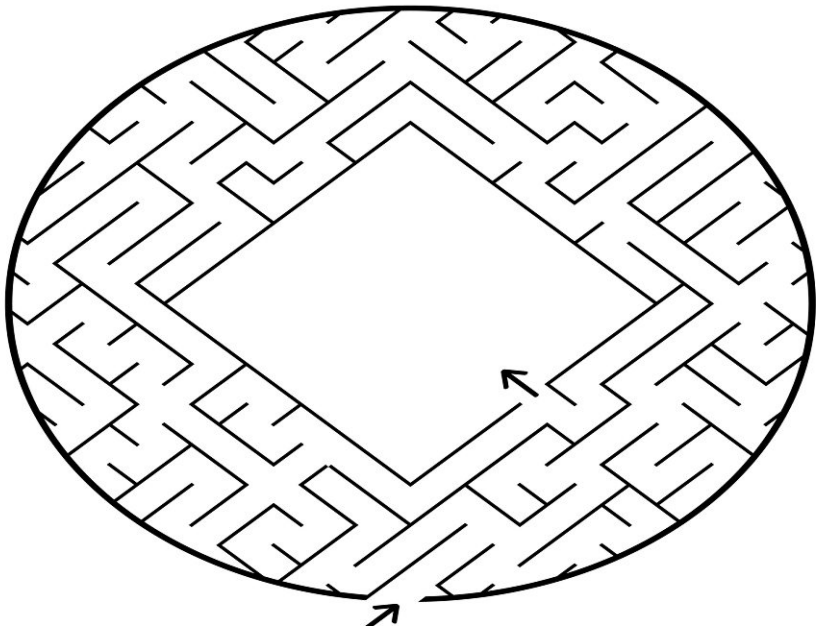
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- Actress Thurman
- Suffix for expert or treat
- Wear away
- "__ Race"; movie for Whoopi
- Pig's home
- McEntire's namesakes
- Donkey

DOWN

- Actor Sandler
- Shade of purple
- Vice President Agnew
- Robin Tunney's role on "The Mentalist"
- Anger
- Talk on and on informally
- 180° from WNW
- Artifact; object from the past
- "__ and the Pussycat"; film for Barbra Streisand
- "__, P.I."; Tom Selleck series
- Blood problem
- "Monsters, __"; animated film
- "__ Willie Winkie"; Shirley Temple movie
- "The flowers that bloom in the spring, __"
- Alf or E.T.
- Actor Lloyd __
- Least hardworking
- "The Big __"; Barbara Stanwyck western series
- Actress Arden
- Elevates
- "__ Nightly News with Lester Holt"
- "__ the Dragon"; Bruce Lee film
- Melissa Gilbert's series role
- Samms and Thompson
- Actress and model Suzy __
- Dines
- Before, to a poet
- Lowe or Estes
- Actress and director Lupino

KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES



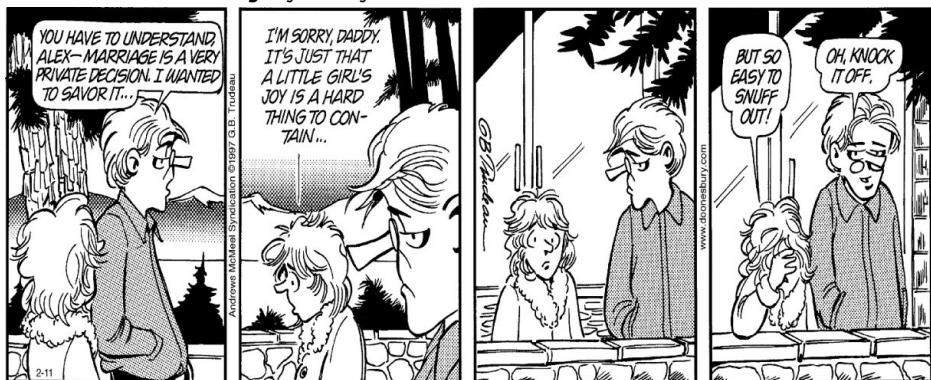
FIND 10 DIFFERENCES



Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



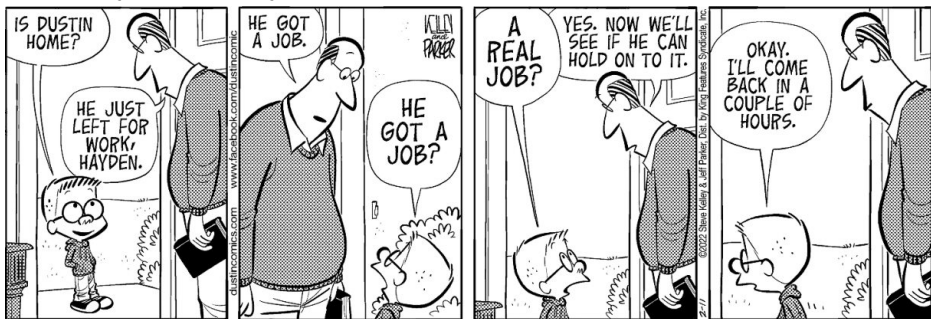
Garfield By Jim Davis



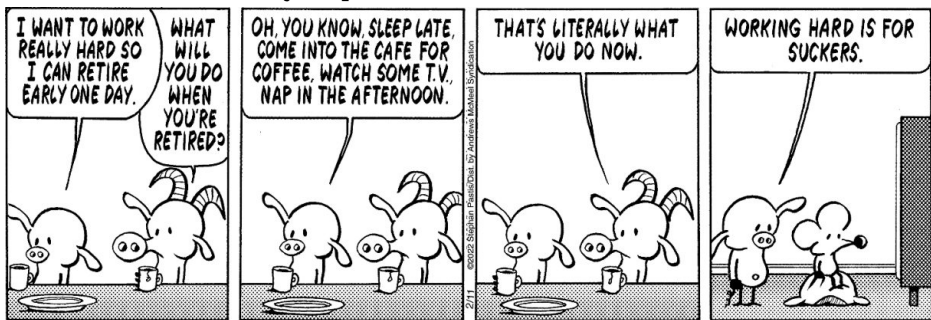
Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



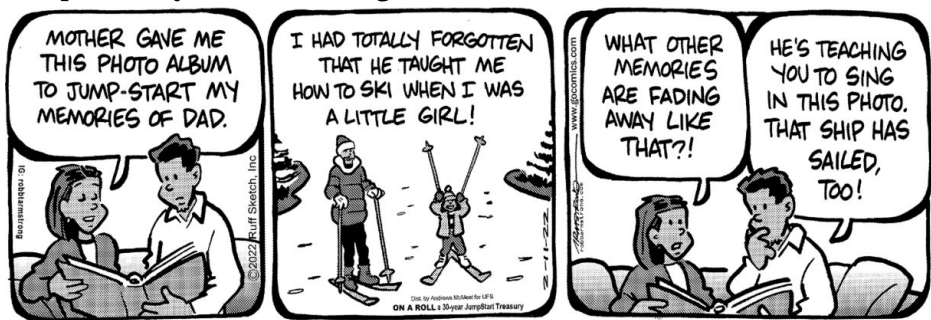
Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



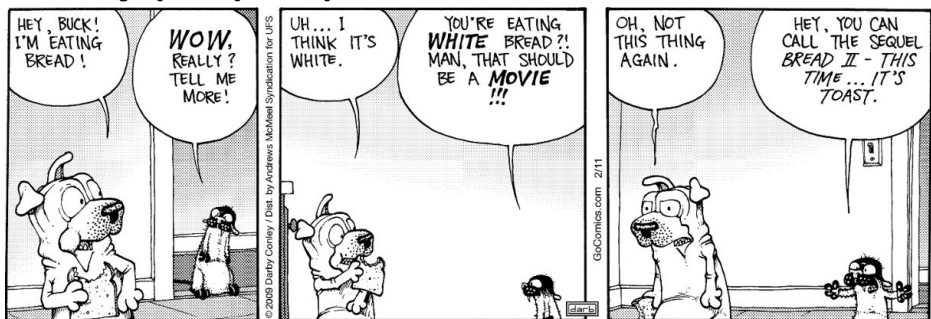
Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt



Jump Start By Robb Armstrong



Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley



Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



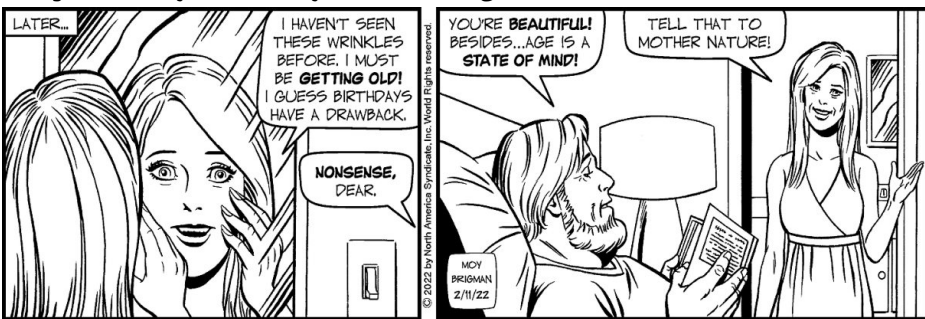
Dilbert By Scott Adams



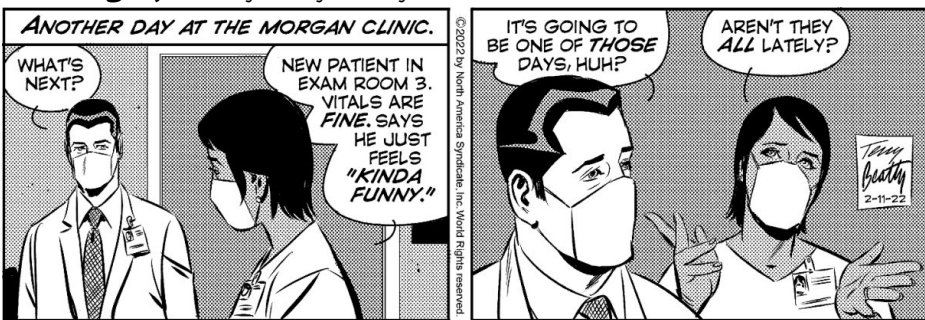
Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



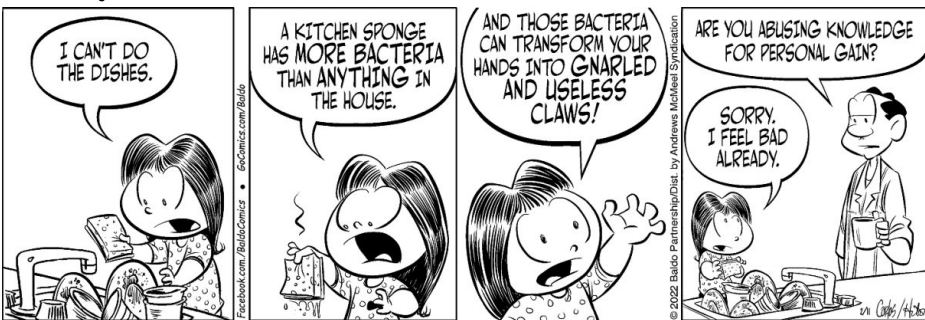
Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty



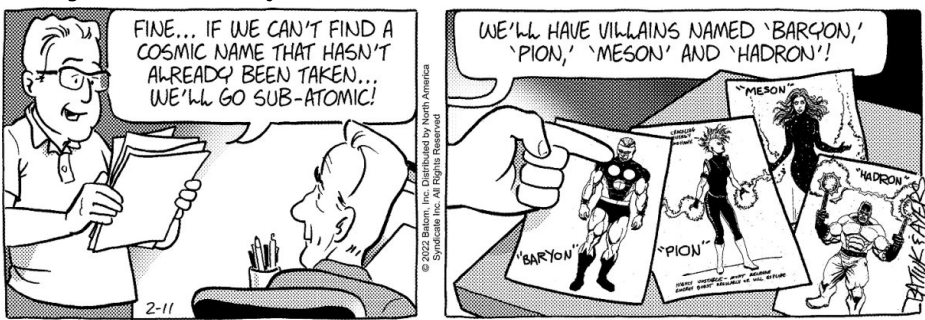
Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley



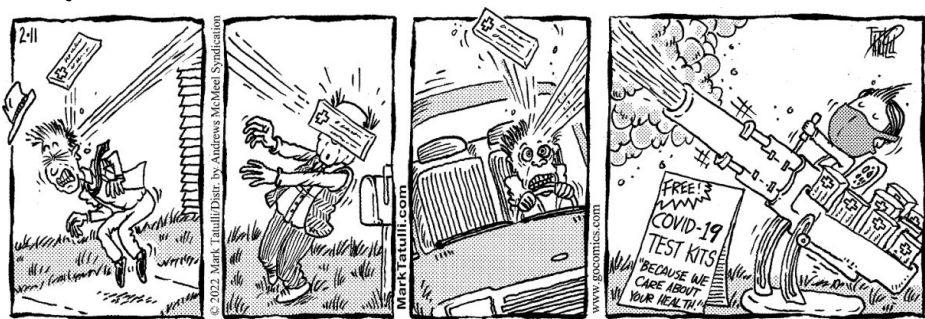
Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



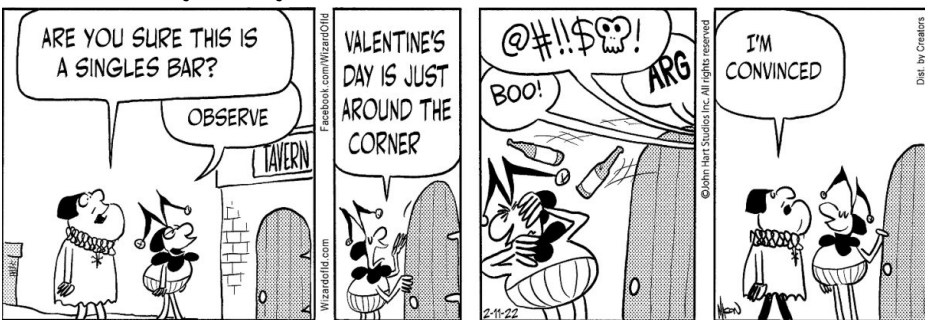
Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk



Lio By Mark Tatulli



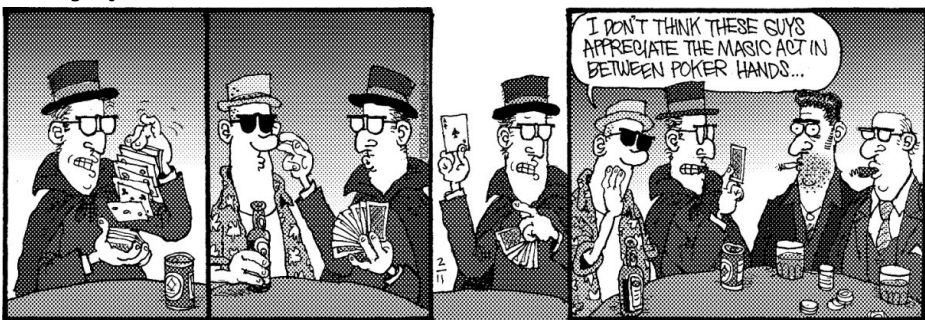
Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



Monty By Jim Meddick



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Hartford Courant

SPORTS

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UCONN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Another historic streak at stake vs. DePaul

Still shorthanded, Huskies look to avoid back-to-back losses

By Alexa Philippou
Hartford Courant

The unthinkable finally happened Wednesday night. The UConn women's basketball team lost a conference game — 72-69 to Villanova at the XL Center — for the first time since 2013, snapping a streak of 169 consecutive wins in league play in the AAC and Big East.

UP NEXT



UConn vs. DePaul
at Gampel, 7 p.m.,
SNY

The shorthanded No. 8 Huskies, down two starters Wednesday, barely have enough time to regroup before another tough conference foe in DePaul, who nearly beat them in Chicago last month.

Another historic streak is at stake. UConn hasn't lost back-to-back games since March 1993, when Geno Auriemma's 1992-93 squad bowed out of the Big East

Tournament before losing in the first round of the NCAAs. Up to this point, the Huskies have bounced back after each loss, winning by an average margin of 19 points. With Caroline Ducharme's and Olivia Nelson-Ododa's statuses in question for Friday, it looks like UConn may have its hands full again.

UConn's season-long bout with injuries and absences worsened Wednesday, when Nelson-Ododa joined Ducharme (day-to-day with a head injury) on the bench after letting Auriemma know "after we

Turn to Women, Page 4



UConn head coach Geno Auriemma contemplates the Huskies performance as he paces in front of the bench in the second half against Villanova at the XL Center in Hartford on Wednesday. Villanova won, 72-69. CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

UCONN HOCKEY

Kondelik, team gather momentum in league

By Dom Amore
Hartford Courant

UConn's days as an underdog in Hockey East could be coming to an end.

That's the way Jachym Kondelik sees it, as the Huskies ride a five-game conference winning streak into a key game at Boston College on Friday night.

"I think we're the team to get over in Hockey East, everyone's got to beat us right now," said Kondelik, a senior who leads the team with 24 points, including a career-high 10 goals, and 14 assists. "We're the hottest team in Hockey East. I know not a lot of people talk about us, but we don't change the way we play. We just go out there and whoever is next, is next."

UConn's top line of forwards — Kondelik, Vladislav Firstov and Kevin O'Neil — have been a consistent scoring threat that has spread team-wide. All four lines scored in the Huskies' 6-2 win at Merrimack on Tuesday. Add in solid defense and goaltending from Darion Hanson, and you have an 80-62 goal differential, trending positively.

"We're going into every game saying, 'Let's beat 'em, and beat 'em by a lot,'" Kondelik said. "We

Turn to Hockey, Page 4

UP NEXT



UConn at Boston College
7 p.m., NESN Plus

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

Dominant Donovan

Bristol Central's Donovan Clingan gets a hug from coach Tim Barrette after leaving the game late in the Rams' 83-67 win over Windsor on Thursday. Clingan, bound for UConn, scored a career-high 51 points in the win. Story, Page C6

UCONN MEN'S BASKETBALL

Huskies seek 2nd straight Big East win

By Shreyas Laddha
Hartford Courant

The UConn men's basketball team has to play true to its identity against a desperate Xavier team on Friday at the Cintas Center.

This matchup is rescheduled from Dec. 28, a game that was canceled due to COVID-19 issues within the UConn program. The Huskies beat No. 18 Marquette, 80-72, at the XL Center on Tuesday night, a much-needed win after two straight losses against Big East conference opponents.

For No. 25 Xavier, this game is as close as a must-win as you can get. The Musketeers have lost two straight conference games, including 73-71 to an unranked Seton Hall on Wednesday night. Xavier currently stands at No. 7 in the conference with a record of 6-6.

Against Marquette, the No. 24 Huskies (16-6, 7-4) not only played to their identity with defense and physical basketball, but they played with what Marquette coach Shaka Smart called "the gift of desperation." UConn played with energy on both sides of the court, backed by its physical brand of basketball, and coach Dan Hurley wants to see more of that from his team.

"When we're at our best, we

Turn to Men, Page 4



UP NEXT UConn at Xavier
7 p.m., FS1

WINTER OLYMPICS AT A GLANCE
A look at top results and news from the Beijing Games.

MEDAL LEADERS (as of 6 p.m. ET Thursday)

Country	G	S	B	Tot
Austria	4	5	4	13
Norway	5	3	4	12
Canada	1	4	7	12
Russian Olympic Committee	2	3	6	11
United States	4	5	1	10

HIGHLIGHTS

■ American Nathan Chen, right, totaled 332.60 points to easily capture gold in the men's figure skating competition Thursday. Chen finished 22.55 points ahead of silver medalist Yuma Kagiyama of Japan.

■ After a slow start, the U.S. routed China 8-0 in the host country's Olympic men's hockey debut.

■ Austrian skier Johannes Strolz won gold in the Alpine combined 34 years after his father, Hubert, did the same. More coverage, Page 3



NATACHA PISARENKO/AP

OLYMPICS FIGURE SKATING

When Chen is on, rivals have no chance

By John Powers
Boston Globe

The last four years were a quest for redemption for his shambolic short program in PyeongChang. Three consecutive world titles had proved his worth beyond dispute. But what Nathan Chen needed for fulfillment could only be achieved atop Olympus.

And so he closed the circle Thursday in Beijing, blowing away a trio of Japanese rivals, including Yuzuru Hanyu, the two-time defending champion, to win the gold medal that had eluded the American men for the last dozen years.

"It means the world," said Chen

after he'd beaten teenager Yuma Kagiyama by more than 22 points with a brilliant free skate featuring five quadruple jumps. "I'm just so happy."

So now that he has checked the final box at 22 — what's next? Does Chen continue for another quadrennium and go for a repeat in Milan? Or does he resume his studies at Yale, earn his diploma in statistics and data science, and move on to a world without salchows?

That was on his mind last fall, months before he made the US team for the second time. "There is a life outside of skating and at some point in time in the near future I will have to take a step away," Chen

said. "I won't be able to skate for the rest of my life."

What Chen learned during the last two years is that the most carefully crafted career plan can be upended by circumstance. The 2020 world championships were scuttled by the pandemic, as were the last two Grand Prix finals.

This season Chen and his teammates and rivals had to compete amid a global COVID surge and hope that they didn't test positive en route to or at the Games as Vincent Zhou did after the team event and had to miss the men's competition.

"Every single day is a new day,

Turn to Chen, Page 3

Safety Tip of the Day

When it comes to putting sand down on an icy walkway or driveway, the grittier the sand, the better.

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OLYMPICS

MEN'S HOCKEY

US, Canada set to meet after intense scrimmage

Associated Press

BEIJING — Jeremy Colliton was not sure what would have happened if the pre-Olympic scrimmage between the United States and Canada had gone on another period. Some chip-piness might’ve gone over the edge.

He and everyone else get a chance to find out when the U.S. and Canada face off for real at 11:10 p.m. EST on Friday night in each team’s second preliminary round game. Much has changed since the scrimmage, including Claude Julien returning from injury to reassume Canada coaching duties from Colliton, but the rivalry is just as heated as it has been for decades.

“Every time we play Canada, it’s always going to be a battle,” said U.S. goal-tender Drew Comness, who started the tourna-ment-opening 8-0 rout of China. “It doesn’t matter if we’re on the pond or we’re on a rink or really anything. It’s always going to be very competitive.”

The scrimmage showed that to be true even with-out NHL talent in Beijing. Canada forward Mason McTavish sent U.S. defen-seman Brock Faber to the ice with a big hit on the first shift, and that game didn’t



U.S. goalkeeper Drew Comness blocks a shot by China’s Liu Jie (Jason Fram) during a preliminary round game Thursday in Beijing. **MATT SLOCUM/AP**

even count.

This one — set for 12:10 p.m. in Beijing and 11:10 p.m. EST Friday night — could go a long way toward deter-mining which team wins the group, avoiding the qualifi-cation round and earning a spot in the quarterfinals. Like the U.S., Canada won its first game, an impressive 5-1 defeat of Germany, and early on looks every bit like a gold medal contender.

“We’ve got to bring our A-game,” said U.S. forward Sean Farrell, who had a hat trick and two assists against China. “They’re going to be a fast, physical team, and we’re going to have to bring our best game.”

The Americans showed flashes of their best qualities in the scrimmage, includ-

ing two breakaway goals off turnovers when the play was 3-on-3. Coach David Quinn said the exercise “gave us an idea what we’re good at and it gave us an idea what we weren’t good at.”

As much as Canada goal-tender Edward Pasquale isn’t putting much stock in the happenings of the scrim-mage, it showed his team-mates what the U.S. might be capable of.

“Young, really good feet, and they can skate really well,” Canada defenseman Maxim Noreau said. “The difference when it’s an exhibi-tion game like that (is) it’s not as physical as normal. It’s kind of our bread and butter of getting to the net, throwing our bodies around, even blocking shots.”

SKIING

Shiffrin seeks reset; enters super-G

Associated Press

BEIJING — The on-the-slopes portion of what Mikaela Shiffrin hopes will be a “reset” at the Beijing Olym-pics — moving on from early mistakes that eliminated her from two races — began under a cloudless sky with a pair of trips about a half-hour apart down the competition hill during an official train-ing session Thursday for the upcoming super-G.

Wearing a maroon racing helmet, bright red reflective goggles and a white racing suit with “USA” on the front in blue capital letters, the two-time Olympic gold medalist eased across the finish line each time, upright instead of in a speed-preserving tuck. After the first, she paused briefly to chat with two other racers. After the second, she swiftly made her way past a gathering of about a dozen folks and was on her way.

All of that was clear to anyone present. Less certain

right there and then: How Shiffrin is faring with her off-the-slopes attempt to get over those sudden and surprising exits in her best disciplines.

What become known via the U.S. ski team a few hours later, though, was that Shif-frin will, indeed, take part in the super-G on Friday as the women move from the tech-nical to the speed events. That will be her third start of what still could end up being a six-race trip to China.

“It’s hard to accept what happened, but she has to work through it. And one of the better ways to do that is to keep looking forward. She has multiple events here, which is great for her,” U.S. head women’s Alpine coach Paul Kristofic said. “You have to look at what’s in front of you and try to put what’s behind you to rest, as difficult as that is.”

Kristofic said Thursday’s practice “went well.”

Shiffrin, a 26-year-old from Colorado, never has entered

a super-G at an Olympics, but she did win it at the 2019 world championships.

“Being outside and switching events and doing something different — it’s a different impulse, for sure, in speed, and it’s a good feeling to be out here and pushing and skiing well,” Kristo-fic said. “That’s part of the process to get through it.”

Shiffrin’s boyfriend, Norwegian skier Aleskander Aamodt Kilde, described her as being “in a good state; she’s all right.”

“She’s a hero and she can handle this. She handles pressure like no one else, and this is something she will come out of,” said Kilde, who won a silver Thursday in Alpine combined. “But it’s been a couple of tough days.”

A U.S. ski team spokes-woman said Thursday that Shiffrin and her mother, Eileen, who also serves as a coach, would not “be doing any media for the foresee-able future.”

Chen

from Page 1

every opportunity is a new opportunity, every competi-tion is going to be different,” Chen concluded.

What he most wanted was for this competition to be everything that the 2018 Games weren’t. His short program that year, which buried Chen in 17th place, was almost comically bad. His long program, which he won easily over Hanyu, was astounding and it pulled him up to fifth.

That was the last time that Chen lost an event until last autumn when Zhou beat him at Skate America, which was more a case of Chen beating himself with slop-piness. When he’s up to the mark, nobody is in his class.

“Nathan had a perfect performance,” said bronze medalist Shoma Uno after Chen won Tuesday’s short with a record score. “For any athlete, it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to win over him. I am not there yet.”

Hanyu, who missed the entire international season with a cranky ankle, knew that he had to shoot the moon in the free skate after his flawed short dumped him into eighth. So he opened his program with the quadruple axel, which neither Hanyu nor anyone else has landed.

“No matter how hard, no matter how unimaginable, I



Nathan Chen of the United States reacts during the men’s singles free skate on Thursday in Beijing. **MATTHEW STOCKMAN/GETTY**

want to push a little bit more for those who have expecta-tions in me,” he said.

Hanyu splattered the axel then fell on his quad salchow. Uno messed up two quads. And Kagiya-ma stumbled out of his quad loop. All Chen had to do was remain upright, and he did much more than that, hitting all five quads including a spectacular lutz. His final choreographed sequence doubled as a victory lap.

“I never really felt I’d be able to make it this far in my career,” Chen said. “I’d always dream about making the Olympics and winning the Olympics. But I thought: That’s hard. I don’t know if I can make that happen.”

With the Olympic gold medal around his neck, Chen has nothing more to prove. He has won six

national crowns, the most since Dick Button. He has claimed the last three world titles, which likely would have been four but for the COVID cancellation.

Chen now has become the icon, the gold standard. He has conquered the icy world that he first entered at 3. But there are other worlds that intrigue him, like the Gothic confines at Yale.

“It’s really cool being around people who are not skaters, people who have serious ambitions that are beyond my scope of under-standing,” Chen said before the season. “It’s inspira-tional to see that.”

It may well be that he goes back to New Haven and never laces up again. If so, Chen will leave the sport with a full resume. His grade at Olympus is a straight A.

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Older Men In Italy Don’t Need ED Drugs! Now We Know Why...

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The Inside Story!

This week we got a letter from a reader in Texas about a “little secret” that has renewed her love life with her husband! (Texas women tell it like it is!)

Tina writes: Dear Karen,

For years my husband and I had a great love life. He was sexy and passionate and so confident. But when he reached his 50s, he lost some of his old spark, especially in the bedroom. He tried every product out there; prescriptions, testosterone boosters, even male enhancement pills... but nothing worked. This is terrible, but I found myself thinking “My strong, passionate husband has become a bedroom weakling.” I had no idea it would all turn around in just 3 weeks!

Last month, he came home from a business trip in Europe and shocked me with more passion and energy than he’s had in years. He took me in the bedroom like we were newlyweds and gave me a night I’ll never forget! It was incredible – and so exciting! The best part is that our love life has been like that ever since. So here we are, closer and more intimate than ever... in our late 50’s!

When I asked about the dramatic change, he said that on his trip, he stayed in a hotel room next to an older, but very energetic Italian couple. Every day he’d see them riding bikes or playing tennis. If that wasn’t enough, the hotel walls were paper-thin, and he could hear them making love every night... and sometimes again in the morning!

My husband just couldn’t help himself, so one afternoon he asked the man his secret. The older man, a nutritionist by trade, smiled and introduced himself as Vito. He said that he was 78 years old, his wife was in her 60s, and that after 38 years of marriage, they were still as active and intimate as ever!

Then, he pulled a small pack of tablets from his leather satchel, gave it to my husband, and said “These come from a small village north of my town. They’re made from naturally pure extracts, packed with densely rich nutrients. Believe me, they will bring back your passion and you will perform in the bedroom even better than you did as a young man!” Then he laughed and said, “You will become an Italian Stallion - like me!”

Karen, that Italian nutritionist was right! These past several weeks have been a dream. My husband is back to being the man I fell in love with. Beaming with confidence, his libido is through the roof and our marriage is stronger than ever!

I’m writing because the pack of tablets is almost empty, and we both desperately want more. I’ve looked everywhere but can’t find them. Do you know about these European tablets and how to get some in the States?

Sincerely, Tina C., Fort Worth, TX



“My husband shocked me with more passion and energy than he’s had in years so here we are, closer and more intimate than ever...in our late 50s!”

Tina, you, and the rest of my readers are in luck because I do know about them. Ever wonder why older men from Italy, Greece, Spain, and all over Europe have the lowest use of ED drugs, but are famous for staying passionate well into their 80s? For years, these men have relied on a unique blossom extract to enhance their energy and bedroom performance.

Milled on the fertile northern plains, and sold under the name Provarin, these pure plant extracts are cultivated along the sea and have legendary reputation throughout Europe for fueling a man’s libido. As Giovanni from Milan put it, “It’s like bedroom rocket fuel, especially for us older guys!”

The best part for women, as you well know, is all that intimacy and passion is enough to send us over the blissful edge! A few years ago, I was dating a cowboy from Wyoming who took Provarin every morning - and believe me, that good ol’ boy kept me warm at night!

All-natural and safe to take, Provarin is a well-kept secret for those in the know, and they like to keep it that way. An old-school, family business, they still harvest product by hand and don’t do any advertising. Long-time customers and word of mouth ensures their limited stock is sold out every year.

Provarin is surprisingly inexpensive, but as far as finding it in the States, I know of just one importer. A spokesman told me they were proud to produce the highest quality product for couples and for the next 48 hours they would offer a special discounted supply to my readers, along with free priority shipping, and two bonus packs of 30 tablets free!

Wow, that’s 2 packs FREE! This is the best opportunity to try Provarin risk-free and you get their 100% results guarantee!

So, there you go, Tina – and the rest of you readers! Use the direct hotline he gave me so you can place your order in 5 minutes or less. Remember he said this offer is only good for 48 hours. The number is **1-800-304-2988**.

Aren’t you glad you asked?

Karen

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MEN'S BASKETBALL
Friday: AT XAVIER, 7 P.M., FS1

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Friday: DEPAUL AT GAMPEL PAVILION, 7 P.M., SNY

UConn
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UConn Women's Basketball

Huskies back in Bridgeport Regional as No. 3 seed in second top-16 reveal

By **Alexa Philippou**
Hartford Courant

If the season ended today, UConn women's basketball team would be the No. 3 seed in the Bridgeport Regional of the NCAA Tournament, a pleasant change for Huskies fans after the NCAA Division I women's basketball committee slotted the team in that spot in its initial reveal last month.

NC State would be the No. 1 seed in Bridgeport, Michigan would be the No. 2 and Texas No. 4. The other No. 1 seeds in the tournament include South Carolina (the

No. 1 overall team) in the Greensboro, N.C., regional, Stanford in Spokane, Wash., and Louisville in Wichita.

UConn, which the committee kept as the No. 11 overall team, picked up a quality win Sunday over Tennessee — which prior to its current slump was a No. 1 seed in the committee's first reveal — before losing to Villanova on Wednesday without two starters and Paige Bueckers.

The last time UConn was seeded lower than No. 2 was in 2005, when it was a No. 3 seed in Kansas City. The Huskies lost to Stanford in the Sweet 16 that year.

Notre Dame also entered the top 16 in the second reveal. UConn defeated it in early December by 19.

The last pre-Selection Sunday reveal will take place Feb. 28, while the final bracket will be unveiled March 13 at 8 p.m.

Below are the regionals as of now, with each team's ranking and the net change since the first reveal.

Greensboro

- 1. South Carolina (1, -)
- 2. Indiana (8, -2)
- 3. Baylor (10, +3)
- 2. Oregon (16, -2)

Spokane

- 1. Stanford (2, -)
 - 2. Iowa State (7, +3)
 - 3. Tennessee (12, -8)
 - 4. Notre Dame (14, entered top 16)
- Bridgeport**
- 1. NC State (3, -)
 - 2. Michigan (5, +4)
 - 3. UConn (11, -)
 - 4. Texas (15, -8)
- Wichita**
- 1. Louisville (4, +1)
 - 2. Arizona (6, +2)
 - 3. Oklahoma (9, entered top 16)
 - 4. LSU (13, -1)

Alexa Philippou can be reached at aphilippou@courant.com

Men

from Page 1

are not a team people look forward to playing against," he said after beating the Golden Eagles. "It's because of what we can do on the backboard, the athleticism, contest at the rim with our length and the depth."

Hurley has talked about being the more desperate team coming into games, and against Xavier, that will be key. For the Musketeers, this is a chance to end their skid against a ranked conference opponent, so they will come into the game desperate for a win.

Throughout the season, UConn has been prone to playing with a lack of energy, including slow starts on the offensive end, which has cost them games. For the Huskies, playing with urgency and to their identity starts with forward Adama Sanogo, guard Tyrese Martin, and guard R.J. Cole.

"Your best players have to play well to win," Hurley said. "That's how you play at the top of the league. You have multiple guys. We need those guys to show up night in and night out.

Here's everything you need to know about the matchup:

Site: Cintas Center, Cincinnati
Time: 7 p.m., Friday

Series: UConn leads 2-1

Last meeting: UConn won, 80-72, on Feb 13, 2021, at Cintas Center.

TV: FS1 (Matt Schumacker, Nick Bahe)

Live Stream: Fox Sports app

Radio: UConn Sports Network (Mike Crispino, Wayne Norman). XM-201. Sirius-158. XM-201. SXM app-964. 979-ESPN Hartford. WILI-1400-AM (Willimantic). WATR-1320-AM (Waterbury). WAVZ-1300-AM (New Haven). WGCH-1490-AM (Greenwich).

No. 25 Xavier probable starters, sixth man

Paul Scruggs, G, 6-5, Sr.; Colby Jones, G, 6-6, So.; Nate Johnson, G, 6-4, Sr.; Zach Freemantle, F, 6-9, Jr.; Jack Nunge, F, 7-0, Jr.; Dwon Odum, G, 6-2, So.

No. 24 UConn probable starters, sixth man

R.J. Cole, G, 6-1, GS; Isaiah Whaley, F, 6-9, GS; Adama Sanogo, F, 6-9, So.; Tyrese Martin, G/F, 6-6, Sr.; Andre Jackson, G/F, 6-6, So.; Jordan Hawkins, G, 6-5, Fr.

The matchup

UConn's offense: The



Connecticut head coach Dan Hurley in action during Saturday's game against Villanova in Philadelphia. **DERIK HAMILTON/AP**

Huskies' offense needs to take care of the ball as the Musketeers have three different players averaging at least a steal per game (Davis Odum, Scruggs and Jones).

UConn's defense: The Huskies need to play physical defense without fouling as Xavier gets 20.3% of its points through free throws, ranking No. 54 in Division I according to KenPom.

Xavier's offense: Nunge and Scruggs are the players to watch out for on the offensive end as they average 12.7 and 12.4 points per game, respectively.

Xavier's defense: According to KenPom, the Musketeers have a defensive efficiency of 94.9 which ranks No.44 in Division I. This will be a good

test for the Huskies after a good offensive showing against Marquette.

UConn's key: Take smart shots in the paint and play with a sense of urgency from tipoff.

Player to watch: Cole. He will dictate the Huskies' pace and if he can get fast breaks started, it will be pivotal in this game.

About Xavier's coach: Travis Steele. He is in his fourth year coaching the team and has three straight years of top-20 recruiting classes.

Xavier's mascot: Musketeer, chosen in 1925.

Xavier famous alumni: Former NBA player David West.

Shreyas Laddha can be reached at sladdha@courant.com or at [shre98](https://twitter.com/shre98) on Twitter.

Women

from Page 1

put the [starters'] names in the book that she wasn't going to be able to go." Auriemma did not elaborate on Nelson-Ododa's exact issue nor whether either player would be available Friday.

Although the Huskies were able to weather Ducharme's absence to beat Tennessee on Sunday, being without Nelson-Ododa was just too much to overcome against a red-hot Villanova team. Nelson-Ododa may not always put up the gaudiest numbers, but it's no coincidence that UConn recorded its worst defensive rating of 2021-22 — allowing 112.5 points per 100 possessions — and worst rebounding rate in at least 13 seasons with the 6-foot-5 center on the bench.

The Huskies also run much of their offense through her. With Paige Bueckers out, Nelson-Ododa's 77 assists are a team-best. UConn settled for way too many jump shots and struggled to run its offense. Aaliyah Edwards and Dorka Juhász were unable to establish much of a presence on either end. It didn't help that Edwards picked up three early offensive fouls.

Should Ducharme and/or Nelson-Ododa sit another game, it couldn't come at a worse time for the Huskies. DePaul's Aneesah Morrow went off for 30 points and 14 rebounds last month with Nelson-Ododa on the floor. Ducharme scored a team-high 19 points that night and, most crucially, the game-winning layup with 1.6 seconds left. With their healthiest roster since November, the Huskies still had a rough second quarter in which DePaul outscored them 21-2 before they took command most of the second half — and they still needed Ducharme's heroics to seal the win.

One thing's for certain: Although Azzi Fudd and Christyn Williams individually did their parts Wednesday, the group needs its other four players (or five or six depending on who's available) to step up big for UConn to take care of business and prevent the Huskies' loss to Villanova from becoming a bigger problem with March just a few weeks away.

Here's what else you need to know about the matchup:

Site: Gampel Pavilion

Time: 7 p.m., Friday

Series: UConn leads, 20-1

Last meeting: No. 10 UConn defeated DePaul 80-78 on Jan. 26 in Chicago

TV: SNY (Meghan Culmo, Allen Bestwick, Maria Marino)

Stream: In-market SNY viewers with access to the network can watch via the NBC Sports app: <http://stream.nbcsports.com/rsn/sny>. Out-of-market viewers can watch on the Fox Sports App or at <https://www.foxsports.com/> as well as on the Fox Now app or at www.fox.com/sports. The games might not appear on those sites until right around tipoff.

Radio: The River 105.9 (Bob Joyce, Debbie Fiske)

DePaul's probable starters, sixth man

Aneesah Morrow, F, 6-1, Fr.;

Deja Church, G, 5-10, Gr.; Lexi Held, G, 5-10, Sr.; Sonya Morris, G, 5-10, Sr.; Darrione Rogers, G, 5-11, So.; Kierra Collier, G, 5-6, Jr.

UConn probable starters, sixth man

Dorka Juhász, F, 6-5, Gr.; Evina Westbrook, G, 6-0, R-Sr.; Nika Mühl, G, 5-10, So.; Aaliyah Edwards, F, 6-3, So.; Christyn Williams, G, 5-11, Sr.; Azzi Fudd, G, 5-11, Fr.

The matchup

UConn's offense: The Huskies' offensive identity had started to crystallize before Nelson-Ododa was sidelined. An increasingly substantial part of it? Fudd, who is coming off back-to-back career highs in scoring (25 and 29 points respectively). She also has a penchant for coming through in the moment, with 13 fourth-quarter points in the Villanova loss and a big second half against the Blue Demons the first time around.

UConn's defense: The Huskies' defense looked out of sorts Wednesday without Nelson-Ododa's inside presence. Auriemma bemoaned the team's inability to stop Villanova inside, from the arc or in crashing the offensive glass. Stuningly, the Huskies got outrebounded 37-21.

DePaul's offense: Morrow was unstoppable when the teams met in January, hitting 11 of 17 shots and going 8 for 9 from the free throw line. Morris (19), Held (12) and Rogers (12) also hit double figures as the Blue Demons shot 42.9% from the field (but just 28.6% from 3).

DePaul's defense: Morrow made her presence felt defensively in that matchup, too, with nearly half of her team's seven steals, several more deflections and 14 rebounds. The Blue Demons allowed the Huskies to have one of their better shooting nights of the season that night, as they hit 58.6% from the field and 40% from 3.

UConn keys: More defensive intensity/commitment, contain Morrow, take care of the ball and have offensive flow/purpose. Who else will step up and help Fudd and Williams if Nelson-Ododa and/or Ducharme remain out?

Players to watch: With Nelson-Ododa's status unclear, Edwards and Juhász must play better Friday than they did against Villanova, where they combined for six points and two rebounds — especially going up against Big East player of the year favorite Morrow.

About DePaul's coach: Doug Bruno led the Blue Demons to 17 consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances, a feat matched only by Connecticut, Stanford and Tennessee between 2003-2019. Bruno was announced as a finalist for induction into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame earlier this year.

DePaul's mascot: Demon In a Blue Suit (DIBS).

Famous alumni: Actor John C. Reilly, NBA player Max Strus, actress Judy Greer.

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Did you know?

According to traffic safety research, if it rained a lot yesterday, then on average, today there'll be fewer crashes. Why? Rain washes away excess oils that build up, improving traction.

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SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Philadelphia	32	22	.593	—
Toronto	30	23	.566	1 ½
Boston	31	25	.554	2
Brooklyn	29	25	.537	3
New York	24	31	.436	8 ½
SOUTHEAST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Miami	35	20	.636	—
Charlotte	28	28	.500	7 ½
Atlanta	26	28	.481	8 ½
Washington	24	29	.453	10
Orlando	13	43	.232	22 ½
CENTRAL				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Milwaukee	35	21	.625	—
Chicago	34	21	.618	½
Cleveland	34	21	.618	½
Indiana	19	37	.339	16
Detroit	12	42	.222	22
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Memphis	38	18	.679	—
Dallas	32	23	.582	5 ½
New Orleans	22	32	.407	15
San Antonio	20	35	.364	17 ½
Houston	15	39	.278	22
NORTHWEST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Utah	34	21	.618	—
Denver	30	24	.556	3 ½
Minnesota	29	26	.527	5
Portland	22	34	.393	12 ½
Oklahoma City	17	37	.315	16 ½
PACIFIC				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Phoenix	44	10	.815	—
Golden State	41	14	.745	3 ½
L.A. Clippers	27	29	.482	18
L.A. Lakers	26	30	.464	19
Sacramento	21	36	.368	24 ½

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Memphis at Detroit, late
Brooklyn at Washington, late
Miami at New Orleans, late
Toronto at Houston, late
L.A. Clippers at Dallas, late
Milwaukee at Phoenix, late
New York at Golden State, late

FRIDAY'S GAMES
Charlotte at Detroit, 7p.m.
Cleveland at Indiana, 7p.m.
Oklahoma City at Philadelphia, 7p.m.
Denver at Boston, 7:30p.m.
San Antonio at Atlanta, 7:30p.m.
Minnesota at Chicago, 8p.m.
Orlando at Utah, 9p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES
New York at Portland, 5p.m.
Memphis at Charlotte, 7p.m.
Sacramento at Washington, 7p.m.
San Antonio at New Orleans, 7p.m.
Cleveland at Philadelphia, 7:30p.m.
Denver at Toronto, 7:30p.m.
Brooklyn at Miami, 8p.m.
Oklahoma City at Chicago, 8p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Dallas, 8:30p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Golden State, 8:30p.m.
Orlando at Phoenix, 9p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Cleveland 105, San Antonio 92
Chicago 121, Charlotte 102
Toronto 117, Oklahoma City 98
Portland 107, L.A. Lakers 105
Sacramento 132, Minnesota 119
Utah 111, Golden State 85

ALL-STAR GAME DRAFT
TEAM LEBRON STARTERS
1. Giannis Antetokounmpo, Milwaukee
3. Stephen Curry, Golden State
5. DeMar DeRozan, Chicago
c- LeBron James, L.A. Lakers (captain)
7. Nikola Jokic, Denver
TEAM LEBRON RESERVES:
17. Jimmy Butler, Miami
11. Luka Doncic, Dallas
23. Darius Garland, Cleveland
23. James Harden, Brooklyn/Phila.
19. Donovan Mitchell, Utah
15. Chris Paul, Phoenix
21. Fred VanVleet, Toronto
TEAM DURANT STARTERS:
*c- Kevin Durant, Brooklyn (captain)
4. Joel Embiid, Philadelphia
6. Ja Morant, Memphis
6. Jayson Tatum, Boston
9. Andrew Wiggins, Golden State
8. Trae Young, Atlanta; *- injured
TEAM DURANT RESERVES:
20. LaMelo Ball, Charlotte
10. Devin Booker, Phoenix
22. Rudy Gobert, Utah
14. Zach LaVine, Chicago
18. Khris Middleton, Milwaukee
16. DeJounte Murray, San Antonio
12. Karl-Anthony Towns, Minnesota
order of picks

TENNIS

ABN AMRO TOURNAMENT
At Ahoy Rotterdam, Rotterdam, Netherlands, Hardcourt indoor
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
Jiri Lehecka d. Botic Van de Zandschulp, 1-6, 6-4, 6-4
#2 Andrey Rublev d. Kwon Soon Woo, 6-3, 6-3.
#1 Stefanos Tsitsipas d. Ilya Ivashka, 6-4, 6-1.
#3Felix Auger-Aliassime d. Andy Murray, 6-3, 6-4.
Marton Fucsovics d. Tallon Griekspoor, 6-4, 7-6(4).

ATP ARGENTINA OPEN
At Buenos Aires Lawn Tennis Club, Buenos Aires, Red clay, outdoor
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
#2 Diego Schwartzman vs. Jaume Munar, late
#4 Fabio Fognini d. Pedro Martinez, 6-4, 7-6(5).
#6 Federico Delbonis d. Pablo Andujar, 6-4, 6-4.
Francisco Cerundolo d. Miomir Kecmanovic, 6-3, 6-6, 6-2.

ATP DALLAS OPEN
At Styxling/Altex Tennis Complex, Dallas, Hardcourt indoor
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
#2 Reilly Opelka vs. Cedrik-Marcel Stebe, late
#4 Jensen Brooksby d. Andreas Seppi, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.
#5 Adrian Mannarino vs. Yoshihito Nishioka, late
Vasek Pospisil d. Jurij Rodionov, 6-7(3), 7-6(6), 6-2.

ST. PETERSBURG LADIES TROPHY
At Sport Club Dinamo, St. Petersburg, Russia, Hardcourt outdoor
WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
Tereza Martincova d. #3 Elena Rybakina, walkover.
Irina-Camelia Begu d. #6 Petra Kvitova, 6-4, 6-0.
#7 Jelena Ostapenko d. Andrea Petkovic, 6-1, 6-2.
Aliaaksandra Sasnovich d. Jaqueline Adina Cristian, 6-2, 6-3.

ODDS

COLLEGE BASKETBALL	FRIDAY UNDERDOG
FAVORITE	LINE
at Akron	3½
at St. Peter's	8½
Monmouth	5½
at Xavier	1½
Oakland	6
Wright State	7½
at Youngstown St.	2
N. Kentucky	5½
at Utah State	12½
aat St. Louis	9
at Colorado St.	5½
at Boise State	8½

NFL	FRIDAY UNDERDOG
FAVORITE	LINE
at Philadelphia	off
at Indiana	off
at Detroit	off
at Boston	4½
at Atlanta	8
at Chicago	3½
at Utah	off

NHL	FRIDAY UNDERDOG
FAVORITE	LINE
at Dallas	-149
at Edmonton	-137
at Anaheim	-150

NFL SUPER BOWL 56
FAVORITE SP O/U
L.A. Rams 4 (48½)
For the latest odds, go to [FanDuel Sportsbook, https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/](https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/)

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE									
ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		
Florida	47	32	10	5	69	194	139		
Tampa Bay	46	30	10	6	66	157	130		
Toronto	43	30	10	3	63	157	115		
Boston	44	26	15	3	55	133	124		
Detroit	48	21	21	6	48	136	165		
Ottawa	42	16	22	4	36	118	140		
Buffalo	45	14	24	7	35	117	157		
Montreal	45	8	30	7	23	100	179		
METRO.	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		
Carolina	44	31	10	3	65	153	106		
N.Y. Rangers	47	30	13	4	64	145	122		
Pittsburgh	47	28	11	8	64	158	126		
Washington	48	25	14	9	59	156	135		
Columbus	44	21	22	1	43	141	163		
N.Y. Islanders	40	17	17	6	40	99	108		
Philadelphia	46	15	23	8	38	116	158		
New Jersey	47	16	26	5	37	134	168		

WESTERN CONFERENCE									
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		
Colorado	44	32	8	4	68	183	129		
Nashville	47	28	15	4	60	147	129		
Minnesota	42	28	11	3	59	161	122		
St. Louis	44	26	13	5	57	153	121		
Dallas	44	24	18	2	50	133	134		
Winnipeg	43	19	17	7	45	122	128		
Chicago	47	17	23	7	41	116	157		
Arizona	47	12	31	4	28	105	176		
PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		
Vegas	48	28	17	3	59	162	143		
Los Angeles	47	24	16	7	55	136	130		
Anaheim	48	23	16	9	55	141	137		
Calgary	43	24	13	6	54	142	104		
Edmonton	44	23	18	3	49	143	146		
San Jose	46	22	20	4	48	126	142		
Vancouver	48	21	21	6	48	123	133		
Seattle	47	15	28	4	34	123	164		

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Carolina at Boston, late
Columbus at Buffalo, late
Pittsburgh at Ottawa, late
Washington at Montreal, late
New Jersey at St. Louis, late
Tampa Bay at Colorado, late
Toronto at Calgary, late

FRIDAY'S GAMES
Winnipeg at Dallas, 8:30p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Edmonton, 9p.m.
Tampa Bay at Arizona, 9:30p.m.
Seattle at Anaheim, 10p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Detroit 6, Philadelphia 3
Chicago 4, Edmonton 1
Dallas 4, Nashville 3
Calgary 6, Vegas 0
Arizona 5, Seattle 2
N.Y. Islanders 6, Vancouver 3

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED
1. Auburn (22-2) did not play.
Next: vs. Texas A&M Saturday.
2. Gonzaga (19-2) vs. Pacific. Next: vs. #25 St. Mary's, Saturday.
3. Purdue (21-3) vs. Michigan. Next: vs. Maryland, Sunday.
4. Arizona (20-2) at Washington State. Next: at Washington, Thursday.
5. Kentucky (20-4) did not play. Next: vs. Florida, Saturday.
6. Houston (20-3) did not play. Next: vs. Memphis, Saturday.
7. Duke (19-4) at Clemson. Next: at Boston College, Saturday.
8. Kansas (19-4) did not play. Next: vs. Oklahoma, Saturday.
9. Texas Tech (18-6) did not play. Next: vs. TCU, Saturday.
10. Baylor (20-4) did not play. Next: vs. #20 Texas, Saturday.
11. Providence (20-2) did not play. Next: vs. DePaul, Saturday.
12. UCLA (17-4) did not play. Next: #21 Southern Cal, Saturday.
13. Illinois (17-6) did not play. Next: vs. Northwestern, Sunday.
14. Wisconsin (19-4) did not play. Next: vs. Rutgers, Saturday.
15. Villanova (18-6) did not play. Next: vs. Seton Hall, Saturday.
16. Ohio State (20-4) did not play. Next: at Michigan, Saturday.
17. Michigan State (17-6) did not play. Next: vs. Indiana, Saturday.
18. Marquette (16-8) did not play. Next: at Butler, Saturday.
19. Tennessee (17-5) did not play. Next: vs. Vanderbilt, Saturday.
20. Texas (18-6) did not play. Next: at #10 Baylor, Saturday.
21. Southern Cal (20-4) did not play. Next: at #12 UCLA, Saturday.
22. St. Mary's (Cal) (20-4) vs. San Diego. Next: at #2 Gonzaga, Saturday.
23. Murray St. (22-2) at Tennessee St.. Next: at Morehead St., Saturday.
24. UConn (16-6) did not play. Next: at #25 Xavier, Friday.
25. Xavier (16-7) did not play. Next: vs. #24 UConn, Friday..

THURSDAY'S SCORES
Towson 75, William & Mary 60
Wagner 69, Mount St. Mary's 57
SOUTH
S. Virginia 73, Methodist 62

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS	SCHOOL	ORB	TRB
Oscar Tshiebwe	Kentucky	120	363
Armando Bacot	N. Carolina	88	292
Fardaws Aimaq	Utah Valley	66	291
Sukhmail Mathon	Boston U.	101	264
Johni Broome	Morehd St	83	263
Dillon Jones	Weber St	38	256
Norchad Omier	Arkansas St	92	255
Justin Bean	Utah State	64	249
Enrique Freeman	Akron	75	241
Kenneth Lofton	La Tech	81	241
Yauhen Masalski	San Fran.	91	241
Kevin Samuel	FGCU	76	238
Kevin Marfo	Quinnipiac	71	233
Royce Hamr	UNLV	61	229
Jamal Cain	Oakland	72	228
Isaac Mushila	TX A&M-CC	76	224
Chuba Ohams	Fordham	58	222
Dereon Seaborn	NC State	76	222
Jaylin Williams	Arkansas	35	221
Essam Mostafa	C. Carolina	83	218
Jake Stephens	VMI	37	218
through Wednesday			

WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED
1. South Carolina (21-1) at Kentucky. Next: at #17 Georgia, Sunday.
2. Stanford (19-3) did not play. Next: vs. Utah, Friday.
3. Louisville (21-2) vs. Virginia, ccd. Next: vs. #18 Notre Dame, Sunday.
4. Michigan (20-3) lost to Michigan St. 63-57. Next: at Northwestern, Sunday.
5. NC State (22-3) beat Boston College 85-78 (OT). Next: at Duke, Sunday.
6. Arizona (17-3) did not play. Next: at Arizona State, Friday.
7. Indiana (17-3) did not play. Next: at Michigan State, Saturday.
8. UConn (15-5) did not play. Next: vs. DePaul, Friday.
9. Iowa State (20-3) did not play. Next: at TCU, Saturday.
10. Baylor (18-5) did not play. Next: vs. West Virginia, Saturday.
11. Georgia Tech (18-5) at Virginia Tech. Next: vs. Clemson, Sunday.
12. Oklahoma (20-3) did not play. Next: at #16 Texas, Saturday.
13. Tennessee (20-4) beat Missouri 76-62. Next: vs. Vanderbilt, Sunday.
14. LSU (19-4) #17 Georgia. Next: at Texas A&M, Sunday.
15. Maryland (18-6) did not play. Next: at Iowa, Monday.
16. Texas (16-6) did not play. Next: vs. #12 Oklahoma, Saturday.
17. Georgia (17-5) at #14 LSU. Next: vs. #1 South Carolina, Sunday.
18. Notre Dame (19-5) beat Miami 69-53. Next: at #3 Louisville, Sunday.
19. Florida (18-6) beat Mississippi St. 73-64. Next: at Auburn, Monday.
20. BYU (19-2) vs. Pepperdine. Next: at St. Mary's Saturday.
21. Ohio State (18-4) beat Nebraska 80-70. Next: at Illinois, Monday.
22. Florida Gullcoast (22-1) did not play. Next: vs. Stetson, Saturday.
23. North Carolina (19-4) beat Pittsburgh 64-54. Next: at Virginia Tech, Sunday.
24. Oregon (15-7) did not play. Next: At Oregon St., Friday.
25. Iowa (16-6) did not play. Next: vs. #15 Maryland, Monday.

WINTER OLYMPICS

MEDAL COUNT				
45of 109total events				
NATION	G	S	B	TOT
Austria	4	5	4	13
Norway	5	3	4	12
Canada	1	4	7	12
ROC	2	3	6	11
United States	4	5	1	10
Germany	6	3	0	9
Netherlands	4	3	1	8
Italy	2	4	2	8
Sweden	4	1	2	7
Japan	1	2	4	7
China	3	3	0	6
France	1	5	0	6
Slovenia	2	1	2	5
Switzerland	1	0	3	4
Finland	0	1	2	3
Australia	1	0	1	2
Czech Republic	1	0	1	2
South Korea	1	0	1	2
Hungary	1	0	2	2
New Zealand	1	0	0	1
Slovakia	1	0	0	1
Belarus	0	1	0	1
Spain	0	1	0	1
Latvia	0	0	1	1
Poland	0	0	1	1

THURSDAY'S MEDALISTS
ALPINE SKIING, Men's Alpine Combined
G: Johannes Strolz, Austria
S: Aleksander Aamodt Kilde, Norway
B: James Crawford, Canada
CROSS-COUNTRY, Women's 10km Classic
G: Therese Johaug, Norway
S: Kerttu Niskanen, Finland
B: Krista Parmakoski, Finland
FREESTYLE SKIING, Mixed Team Aerials
G: United States (Ashley Caldwell, Christopher Lillis, Justin Schoenefeld)
S: China (Mengtao Xu, Zongyang Jia, Guangpu Qi)
B: Canada (Marion Thenuault, Miha Fontaine, Lewis Irving)
FIGURE SKATING, Men Single Skating
G: Nathan Chen, United States
S: Yuma Kagiyama, Japan
B: Shoma Uno, Japan
LUGE, Team Relay
G: Germany (Natalie Geisenberger, Johannes Ludwig)
S: Austria (Madeleine Egle, Wolfgang Kindl)
B: Latvia (Eliza Tiruma, Kristers Aparjods)
SNOWBOARD, Men's Snowboard Cross
G: Alessandro Hammerle, Austria
S: Eliot Grondin, Canada
B: Omar Visintin, Italy
Women's Snowboard Halfpipe
G: Chloe Kim, United States
S: Queralt Castellet, Spain
B: Sena Tomita, Japan
SPEED SKATING, Women's 5000m
G: Irene Schouten, Netherlands
S: Isabelle Weidemann, Canada
B: Martina Sablikova, Czech Republic

THURSDAY'S SCORES
MEN'S CURLING
Switzerland 6, Britain 5 (Extra Ends)
Denmark 7, China 6
Sweden 8, Japan 5

NFL

SUPER BOWL 56
Sunday's game, at Sofi Stadium, Inglewood, Calif.
No. 4 L.A. Rams (15-5) vs. No. 4 Cincinnati (13-7), 6:30 p.m.

TALE OF THE TAPE: SB 56				
RAMS	CATEGORY	BENGALS		
460	Season Points scored	460		
27.1	Points per game	27.1		
37.2	Season points allowed	37.6		
21.9	Points allowed	22.1		
12.4	Avg victory margin	14.5		
64/55	Playoff points/allowed	72/59		
399.7	Playoff total offense	337.3		
2-5	(red) record vs. playoff team	4-2		
372.1	Total offense	361.5		
355	Total first downs	337		
347	Opp. first downs	339		
90-205	Third-down conversion	82-207		
92-223	Opp. third-downs conv.	92-221		
10-19	Fourth down conversions	13-20		
17-32	Opp. fourth down conv.	7-18		
6,325	Total offensive yards	6,145		
5,863	Opp. offensive yards	5,964		
1,058-6.0	Off. plays-average	1,046-5.9		
1,118-5.2	Opp. plays-average	1,075-5.5		
1,683	Total rushing yards	1,742		
1,754	Rushing yards allowed	1,742		
437.4	Run plays-avg. yards	436-4.0		
40-4.0	Opp. play-avg. yards	407-4.0		
4,642	Total passing yards	4,403		
4,109	Opp. passing yards	4,222		
406-607-18	Comp-Comp-Int	384-555-14		
18.1	Average	8.7		
37.2	Opp. average	7.2		
71	Times sacked	55		
50	Defensive sacks	47		
15-16	Fumbles forced-recv	12-8		
19-30	Interceptions-INT TD	13-11		
32-34	Field goals	29-34		
30-34	Opp. field goals	23-31		
51-42.6	Punts-net yard avg.	66-41.0		
5,583	Touchdowns	54		
40	Opp. touchdowns	44		
10-14-1-0	Run-pass-rec-def	16-36-0-2-1		
29-03	Time of possession	31-26		
16-3	Defensive solo tackles	6-24		
1-43	Super Bowl record	0-6		

